

THE HOBOKEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION

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RAVINDER S. BHALLA
Mayor



Diana Davis, Chairwoman
Peter Bakarich, III, Commissioner
Peter Cossio, Commissioner
Amy Sommer, Commissioner
Ken Missbrenner, Commissioner
Jeffrey Pilot, 1st Alternate

Minutes of the January 8, 2018 Shade Tree Commission Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Open Public Meeting Act statement was read by the commission secretary.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners: Cossio, Sommer, 1st Alternate Missbrenner (not sworn in as Commissioner yet), 1st Alternate Pilot, and Chairwoman Davis

Absent: Commissioner Bakarich

Also present: Daisy Amado, commission secretary; and Quanika Stover, Green Infrastructure Specialist/ Urban Forestry Coordinator for the City of Hoboken – liaison for Director Leo Pellegrini, Environmental Services.

AGENDA:

1. Yearly vote for chairperson of the Hoboken Shade Tree Commission

Commissioner Sommer made a motion to vote Diana Davis as the Chairwoman with a second from Commissioner Cossio and all members present unanimously in favor.

Chairwoman introduced new commissioner, Jeffrey Pilot and asked him to tell the Commission about himself and he spoke about his credentials. The Commissioners all introduced themselves and spoke briefly about their background.

2. Approval of the minutes of the December 11, 2017 commission meeting

Chairwoman Davis made a motion to approve the December 11th minutes with a second from Commissioner Cossio and all members present unanimously in favor.

3. Arbor-Pro Training for the Commission

Training began at 7:14pm via conference call and live electronic demonstration by Arbor-Pro. The training ended at 7:49pm due to Arbor-Pro experiencing technical difficulties. Commission discussed training and Chairwoman encouraged them to explore around with the software and advise of any questions so she may contact ArborPro.

4. Chair's Report

- Two trees were removed at 1117 Garden and 1123 Garden. County inspected the two trees and agreed removal was necessary. There was a problem with the sidewalk. We are re-planting the trees in the spring.

- A truck damaged a tree at 319 Washington and architect Nastasi advised they are replacing it. The Commission needs to advise on the pit size and tree species at the February meeting.

Commissioners inquired about spring planting – Chairwoman advised she has the list ready and will send out to bid.

Commissioner Cossio inquired about the tree removal project – Chairwoman advised we lost the grant for two years due to the city having an outstanding grant at the time.

Discussion ensued as to homeowner's responsibility with trees on their property – explaining ordinance to new commissioner Pilot.

Chairwoman asked Quanika if any tree permits were submitted – Quanika advised she did not receive any. Chair asked her to bring any submittals to the February meeting.

Commissioner Sommer mentioned she submitted a tree fund for developer in the Infrastructure Transition Plan.

Commissioner Cossio suggested the Commission ask for more funds for: hazardous and dead trees, tree pit expansions, pruning and for planting trees. Discussion ensued.

5. Public Comments (limited to five minutes per person)

No members of the public appeared before the commission.

6. New Business

No new business discussed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Sommer and seconded by 1st Alternate Pilot with all members present in favor.

Meeting concluded at 8:25p.m.