

THE HOBOKEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION

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DAWN ZIMMER
 Mayor



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

Minutes of the August 8, 2016 Shade Tree Commission Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:03p.m.

ROLL CALL:

<u>BOARD MEMBERS</u>	
Commissioner Peter Bakarich	ABSENT
Commissioner Matt Condon	✓
Commissioner Peter Cossio	ABSENT
Commissioner Amy Sommer	✓
Chairwoman Diana Davis	✓
1 st Alternate, Ken Missbrenner	✓

Also Present: Christopher Brown, Designee for Environmental Services, and Daisy Amado, secretary.

AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes of the July 11, 2016 meeting

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	No Vote
Commissioner Bakarich						✓
Commissioner Condon			✓			
Commissioner Cossio						✓
Commissioner Sommer		✓	✓			
Chairwoman Davis			✓			
1 st Alternate, Ken Missbrenner	✓		✓			

2. Chair's Report

- On July 13th Chairwoman and Commissioner Cossio met with Quentin Wiest, Business Administrator, to discuss the Commission's difficulties in completing projects. Chairwoman wrote up a list at the Business Administrator's request which he will go over with the Mayor.
- Chairwoman went out for about five minutes with the Paul Cowie/Rutgers Research Tree Study group and saw them conduct study with a "tiny hole." We received report today

- from Paul Cowie indicating that the trees on 14th and Washington have Emerald Ash Borer. State wants to come in and perform further inspection. We have more than one tree with symptoms of the Emerald Ash Borer. Ken Missbrenner inquired whether State has a policy. Commissioner Sommer stated Rutgers has a policy. Discussion ensued as to dead trees from the post office to Sinatra Drive; at least thirty dead trees; shade may be the cause. Chairwoman asked Paul Cowie for a copy of the Rutgers report.
- Tree Planting Program – Chris Brown advised there is a pre-construction meeting scheduled for Thursday. Commission inquired as to time of meeting; Chris did not know but will find out and advise. Chairwoman stated trees were supposed to be planted in the Spring and will now be planted in the Fall, not happy that we are one season behind.
- On July 20th a resident called numerous times about a tree stump on Park Avenue and 9th. Chairwoman spoke with owner who got rid of the stump and resident is happy.
- Dead tree on 1039 Bloomfield, Chairwoman asked Ken Missbrenner if he can take a look at it.
- Tree removed at 900 block of Bloomfield, resident had it removed at her expense.
- Dead tree at 330 Grand - Condo Association has to remove it.

3. 11th and Washington Street tree damage – Ken Missbrenner report

We received frantic emails and calls about a water sewerage truck accident; David Calamoneri emailed information; and Ken Missbrenner went out to assess damage to tree. Per Ken: tree damaged from accident and above there are two pruning wounds. Tree is structurally compromised and it is not wise to keep it up. Tree is also growing over the building. Ken's recommendation is to have the tree taken down. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Sommer will send formula to Chairwoman for tree.

Motion to remove tree at 11th and Washington Street at their expense once construction is completed.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	No Vote
Commissioner Bakarich						✓
Commissioner Condon		✓	✓			
Commissioner Cossio						✓
Commissioner Sommer			✓			
Chairwoman Davis			✓			
1 st Alternate, Ken Missbrenner	✓		✓			

4. Update on Tree Sign-Up database – Commissioner Condon

Commissioner Condon advised he has made no progress on this, but commits to getting something out to the Commission before the next meeting. Discussion regarding new google app and looking at setting new database; the way it is setup now is like a survey. Commissioner Condon asked if Chris Brown can assist with this since he has knowledge of same.

5. Recommendations on resolutions for:

- **713-715 Monroe Street** – this item was skipped as we have incomplete plans. Chairwoman will reach out to Planning/Zoning Board secretary.
- **86, 88 and 90 Jefferson Street** – Commissioner Sommer advised this project involves a new sidewalk with one existing street tree to remain and two additional Japanese Zelkova street trees proposed. She reviewed the following recommendations with the Commission: provide a wood tree guard protection for the existing street tree for the duration of construction; enlarge tree pit of the existing tree to 4’x8’ minimum - provide tree pit guard; proposed tree pits should also be 4’x8’ minimum; and street tree planting detail should have two stakes as per the Hoboken Shade Tree Commission standard detail. The reason we are providing these recommendations are: for the protection of existing trees from potential damage due to construction activities; and larger tree pits provide more optimal growing conditions. Discussion ensued. Chairwoman will follow-up with Ann Holtzman, Zoning Officer, in connection to procedures established to have a Shade Tree Commission member go out with her once a resolution has been approved.

Motion to approve recommendations for 86, 88 & 90 Jefferson Street

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	No Vote
Commissioner Bakarich						✓
Commissioner Condon		✓	✓			
Commissioner Cossio						✓
Commissioner Sommer			✓			
Chairwoman Davis			✓			
1 st Alternate, Ken Missbrenner	✓		✓			

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

No members of the public appeared before the Commission.

7. New Business

- Commissioner Sommer provided handout for Tree Protection – New York City Tree Guard. Discussion as to orange fence around tree and the first drawing after the survey is tree protection as it is the first item to go up and the last to come down.
- Discussion as to start date of Washington Street project. Chairwoman stated there is no protection of trees in bids. Chris Brown was asked if he finds anything out on the start date to advise the Commission.
- Commissioner Condon mentioned previous discussion on starting up a Gmail account for the Commission.
- Chairwoman sending memo to Business Administration and would like to include all Commissioners’ credentials: Amy Sommer – ISA, Certified Arborist, International, licensed in New York, and Landscape Architect in New York and Connecticut. Matt Condon, ISA and Landscape Architect. Ken Missbrenner – ISA, Certified Arborist in New York and has Masters in Landscape Architecture. Chairwoman will email Commissioner Bakarich for his credentials.

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	No Vote
Commissioner Bakarich						✓
Commissioner Condon			✓			
Commissioner Cossio						✓
Commissioner Sommer	✓		✓			
Chairwoman Davis			✓			
1 st Alternate, Ken Missbrenner		✓	✓			

Meeting concluded at 7:46 p.m.

(Minutes taken/submitted by D. Amado)