

THE HOBOKEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION

City Hall, 94 Washington Street
Hoboken, New Jersey 07030
Tel: 201-420-2015 Fax: 201-653-0069

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 May 8, 2017 Shade Tree Commission Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present were: Commissioners Condon, Cossio, 1st Alternate Ken Missbrenner and Chairwoman Diana Davis

Absent: Commissioners Bakarich and Sommer

Also present: Chris Brown, liaison for Director Pellegrini of the Department of Environmental Services and Daisy Amado, commission secretary.

AGENDA:

1. Approval of the minutes of the March 13, 2017 commission meeting

Commissioner Missbrenner made a motion to approve the minutes with a second from Commissioner Condon with all members present in favor.

2. Chair's Report

- In 2016, the Hoboken Shade Tree Commission won a \$150,000 CSIP grant; however, it was cancelled due to an outstanding grant from four years ago that was never closed out. Chairwoman stated she reminded Director Pellegrini about closing out the previous grant documents. To date, the outstanding grant has not been closed out. This is the second year in a row the Commission was not eligible to apply for a CSIP grant.
- On Arbor Day there were six Cherry trees planted on the 11th Street Island. Thank you to Lou's Landscaping for the donation.
- Spring Tree Planting was awarded and planting will begin in two weeks. We have 65 trees for residents throughout the City. Chairwoman asked Commissioners to complete the mark-outs by Monday. Commissioner Cossio asked why we are planting all Cherry trees. Chairwoman mentioned she discussed with Director Pellegrini and advised him that we need a diversity of species.
- Sapling event was successful. Chairwoman gave thanks to James Davis, employee of Environmental Services, as everything was delivered on time. There were about twenty girl scouts who helped out distributing all 2,500 saplings.

- Chairwoman went to sports shop on Washington Street for t-shirts for the Commissioners; need to know sizes. The t-shirts will be worn when Commissioners are working around the City.
- New Jersey State Shade Tree Commission identification cards were received and distributed. There were no cards for Commissioners Bakarich or Condon so Chairwoman will call and inquire.
- Washington Street repairs, Chairwoman noticed a railing run over and it will be repaired. Chairwoman requested Commissioners notify her if they see any other issues while Washington Street repairs are being conducted. Wires on little trees were removed on Washington Street which is good.
- Chairwoman asked if Ken Missbrenner was ever reimbursed for Atlantic City and he advised he was not, she has not been reimbursed either. Chair asked Ken to resend the email to her. She will resubmit both expense reimbursements.
- Website has not been updated. Commissioner Cossio mentioned he can update in June. Discussion on content needing to be updated and Chair has photographs.
- ArborPro will be conducting inventory of trees at the end of May. Commission still needs training on software since we cancelled the training in April. Chair will obtain three dates sometime in June.
- Matt Condon stated he will be moving out of Hoboken therefore he will be resigning from the Commission. He will be here until the end of June, so he will attend the June meeting.

3. Review of 461 11th Street

The following is being proposed: six new street trees – four on Adams Street, no existing overhead wires; and two on 11th Street, existing overhead wires. Proposed species is the Bradford Pear.

Shade Tree recommendations are as follows: Bradford Pear tree is no longer an approved species of the Shade Tree Commission. We suggest selecting a different species from our approved list. We also suggest a large tree species along Adams Street and a small tree species along 11th Street. The large species tree's lowest limb should be 7 feet. Tree caliber should be 3 inch minimum. The minimum tree pit size should be 4'x8' with 5'x10' strongly recommended. Provide three sided and tapered to curb tree pit guards, per our Commission standards, at all tree pits. Mulch should be shredded bark mulch. The larger tree pits allow for a greater soil volume and thus more optimal conditions for tree establishment and longevity. Tree pit guards protect trees from soil compaction, dog urination, root/trunk damage.

Commissioner Cossio made a motion to approve the recommendations provided with a second from Commissioner Missbrenner with all members present in favor.

4. Review of 91 Monroe Street

Although the resolution states four trees, none are actually shown on the plans. After review and discussion of the plans, Shade Tree recommendations are as follows: plant one medium size tree with a 4'x 6'tree pit and provide three sided and tapered to curb tree pit guards, per the Commission standards, at all tree pits. Mulch should be shredded bark mulch.

Chairwoman will check with Zoning as to where the four tree recommendation came from. Also, discussion on donating other trees.

Commissioner Condon made a motion to approve the recommendations provided with a second from Commissioner Cossio with all members present in favor.

5. Review of 706 Grand Street

Proposing one street tree at sidewalk, specifically Japanese Tree Lilac with a 3' x 5' tree pit guard. The commission recommends the following as a condition of this approval: plant one larger tree in location already shown on plans with the pit minimum of 4' x 7'and bark mulch as per the Commission's standards.

Commissioner Missbrenner made a motion to approve the recommendations provided with a second from Commissioner Cossio with all members present in favor.

6. Tree Protection Guidelines – Commissioner Sommer

Item carried to next meeting as Commissioner Sommer not present.

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

No members of the public appeared before the Commission.

8. New Business

- Commissioner Cossio mentioned a branch falling off on a Cherry Tree on Bloomfield Street and he attempted to use Hoboken 311 to report it. However, there is nowhere on that site to report issues with trees. Commissioner shared what a great tool Hoboken 311 is to report issues and it would really help the Commission. Chairwoman will discuss with Juan Melli, the City's Communications Manager.
- Chairwoman discussed reporting a branch dangling off a tree on 11th Street which is still there.
- Commissioner Missbrenner showed pictures of trees at the Island. Discussion of shrubs in park and more trees taken down on waterfront on Pier A. Commissioner also mentioned that the drainage pipes are clogged as there is grass growing out which may be contributing to the conditions and stressing the trees.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Cossio and seconded by Commissioner Missbrenner with all members present in favor.

Meeting concluded at 8:15 p.m.