

MARLBORO TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION
MINUTES FROM MONDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2008 MEETING

MUNCIPAL COMPLEX – ROOM 3

Meeting is called to order at 7:35pm

Opening statement is read by Jeff Weiss, chairperson.

As the presiding officer of this meeting of the Marlboro Shade Tree Commission, I hereby declare that the notice requirements in accordance with the provisions of the open meeting law chapter 21, P.L. 1995 has been provided in accordance with the annual notice procedures of C 10.428 of said Act. I further order that this public announcement be place in the minutes of this meeting.

Roll Call was taken

Paula Broglia – Present

Sherry Cilea – Present

Shary Cohen – Present

Suzi Leifer – Present

Debi Richards – Present

Navdeep Sandhu – Present

Nanci Susino – Present

Jeff Weiss – Present

Venny Zamarra – Present

Also present

Shari Spero – CME Associates

Randi Marder - Council person

Open items from Jan 28, 2008 meeting

Conservation officer - Shari Spero from CME Associates will be handling the responsibilities of this position

Data regarding shade trees - No data seems to exist. Nothing can be located. Current commission is to start anew.

How does Marlboro acquire trees and who plants them – This remains an open item. Several suggestions, such as the Teen Advisory Committee and the Department of Public Works may be able to help plant. In planting large quantities of trees Shari Spero suggested hiring a contractor to handle this and the two year follow up on caring for the trees.

Funding – At present fees for applications for grants have been filed through the office of Alayne Sheplar, business administrator for the town. Cost has been covered. No other township funding has been allotted to the Shade Tree Commission at this time.

Chapter 32 discussion – Much discussion occurred regarding Chapter 32. According to Shari Spero the town is utilizing Chapter 84 ordinance which conflicts with Chapter 32. Conflicts exist in the proper removal of a tree on private property. The Shade Tree Commission can not move forward on enforcing any tree removal ordinances until this is resolved. Shari Spero is working on rewriting Chapter 32.

Shari Spero is also in charge of the **Tree Management Plan**.

- The goals of the township have to be listed for five years.
- The plan must contain five goals, such as Arbor Day, Inventory, Tree resources, apply for grants, diversify plants and an arboretum.
- Without a tree Management plan the township can not receive funding from the state.

Marlboro Township applied for a New Jersey Tree Foundation Grant.

- 225 Trees was awarded to Marlboro – All 1-2 feet bare rooted trees.
- The trees will be dispersed in the following locations;
- Municipal complex, Recreation Center, Hawkins Road Park, Falson Road, Nolan Road Park, Marlin Estates Park, Marlboro Crossing, Union Hill Recreation Complex, Vanderburg Aquatic Center, Vanderburg Soccer Complex, Senior Center, Woodcliff Development Park.
- According to Randi Marder the decision of tree placement was based on a 2004 Schoor – DePalma report.

How to handle **resident complaints** was discussed. The town does not get involved. The general rule is that if a branch is on you property from your neighbor's tree you can prune it back to your property line, but you cannot kill or destroy the tree. If the tree is township owned the Department of Public Works will care for it. Any resident complaints that come in Shari Spero said you can forward them to her.

Arbor Day - Arbor Day celebration ideas were discussed. Picking a date to plant the 225 trees was discussed. It was suggested that we conduct Arbor Day with beautification day, May 17th. It was mentioned that we should contact the press; it is a great photo opportunity and educational opportunity. It was also suggested that we use Channel 77 for outreach tips and education regarding tree care.

Arbor Day proclamation has to be determined. Nanci Susino will work on an Arbor Day proclamation and send it to the town clerk, (Alaida Manco – Municipal Clerk) and then the mayor must sign it.

Channel 77 - Channel 77 has not yet posted updates. Sherry Cilea, Channel 77 liaison, is covering this.

Jeff Weiss informed the commission that **membership to the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation** will cost \$95.00 dollars with additional members costing \$25.00. This will be sent to the office of Alayne Sheplar.

Open items –

- Grant information has to be submitted to town and followed up on.

- Arbor Day Celebration.
- Resolution to Chapter 32 ordinances.
- Decision on who will plant the trees awarded and the date this will occur

Jeff Weiss announced the upcoming Gypsy Moth meeting, March 26th at 6:45pm. Anyone interested in attending please contact Jeff.

Next Meeting Date is March 31, 2008, 7:30pm Room 2.

The following are dates changes from the last Monday in the month to the following;

May 26th changed to **June 2**

September 29th changed to **September 22nd**

December 29th to be determined

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm