

TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

P.O. Box 6006
Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648

Department of Community Development
609-844-7076

MINUTES

Lawrence Township Shade Tree Advisory Committee

April 27, 2009

Members Present: Carmine Di Sanzo, Alvin Geser, Edward Sproles, Doris Weisberg, Councilman Michael Powers, and Henry Hoffman.

Members Absent: Rosemarie Clark

Others Present: Andrew Link, Staff Liaison, Celine Bouchard

Chairman Di Sanzo convened the meeting at 7:30 PM.

- The March minutes were approved.
- Celine Bouchard, a resident of the Manors, addressed public comments to the Committee. She said that in the spring of 2008, the management company marked seven trees for removal. She disputes the Association's claim that the trees are diseased with "worm rot". She contacted the Township, which sent a letter to the Homeowners Association in care of RCP Management. They were put on notice that any tree removal requires written approval of the Township. The trees were not removed. This spring, one of the previously marked trees was removed without approval. In addition to removals, Ms. Bouchard is concerned that trees will be severely pruned thereby ruining their aesthetic value and jeopardizing their health. She would like to see stricter requirements for removals, required replacement of removed trees, and established pruning guidelines. Councilman Powers suggested that she address Council about her concerns. Alvin Geser suggested that the Township request that the Homeowner's Association provide the Township with a written maintenance schedule. Andrew Link will research ANSI, ISA, and other town's ordinances for standards for pruning.
- Councilman Powers said that Committee presentations to Council will be scheduled in the near future.
- The Township recently had twelve trees replaced on Johnson Avenue. Tree planting on Marlboro Road and Lawrence Avenue will be done in the fall.
- Mr. Link contacted the PSE&G vegetation management representative who said line clearing will probably commence on May 4, per their previously submitted plans. The exact work locations are determined on a day-to-day basis.
- Chairman Di Sanzo will e-mail Councilman Power's changes to the management plan to Mr. Link which he will then provide to the Manager.
- The school administration is picking a planting site for an Arbor Day tree planting ceremony
- Edward Sproles reported on the rededication of the memorial plaques at the High School. Council Powers, Chairman Di Sanzo, and Mr. Sproles were in attendance.
- Chairman Di Sanzo, Mr. Geser, and Mr. Sproles manned a table at the Earth Day

celebration at the Nature Center on April 25th. They distributed literature and tree seedlings.

- There were no site plans to be reviewed.
- Councilman Powers informed the Committee about the Sustainable New Jersey program. Chairman Di Sanzo volunteered to participate.
- The next meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2009 at 7:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
J. Andrew Link
Principal Planner