

TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

P.O. Box 6006
Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648

Department of Community Development
609-844-7087

MINUTES

Lawrence Township Shade Tree Advisory Committee

May 23, 2011

Members Present: Carmine Di Sanzo, Janet Kane, Alvin Geser, and Rosemarie Clark

Members Absent: Doris Weisberg and Edward Sproles.

Others Present: Michael Powers, Council Liaison (arrived at 8:30 PM), Andrew Link, Staff Liaison

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

- The April minutes were approved.
- Chairman Di Sanzo will ask for a sample of a metal stake marker. Rosemarie Clark will photograph some of the Marquand Park markers. The Committee will provide several options to Council with costs.
- Alvin Geser suggested that the newly acquired Twin Pines Airport property may be a location for memorial trees. Currently, Central Park and Village Park have identified planting locations.
- Chairman Di Sanzo reported that the Arbor Day ceremony was well attended by the elementary school children. They read a poem they brought.
- Chairman Di Sanzo said that the Nature Center program was better attended than before. He gave out more than fifty committee brochures. He said they should advertise the specific programs which are conducted by knowledgeable people.
- Andrew Link said that he discussed with Municipal Manager Richard Krawczun the Committee's interest in adopting a more stringent ordinance along the lines of Jackson Township's ordinance. Mr. Krawczun said that he would like to see the focus on education. He is reluctant to penalize people who are unaware that there are restrictions on tree cutting. He also said that the Township does not have the staff to enforce a more restrictive ordinance. Councilman Powers said that this position is shared by Council. He suggested working with the schools and utilizing the Township website. He will see if the Lawrenceville Patch will attend the upcoming meeting.
- The Committee was agreeable to doing more to educate the community on tree matters. Chairman Di Sanzo felt that if a stricter ordinance was in place, even incomplete enforcement would serve to get the word out.

- Rosemarie Clark said her experience in another state was that regulating tree cutting on private property is a divisive issue. The Committee is interested in how Princeton Borough or West Windsor handle tree cutting.
- The Committee was in favor of starting with tree care companies to be sure they are aware of our ordinance.
- The Committee will reexamine its mission in light of this meetings discussion.
- The Committee reviewed the Public Service Electric & Gas (Rider University-Solar Farm) application. There were no comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Andrew Link
Principal Planner