

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

January 23, 2012

Members Present: Carmine Di Sanzo, Judy Bubar, Janet Kane, and Edward Sproles.

Members Absent: Rosemarie Clark and Doris Weisberg

Others Present: Andrew Link, Staff Liaison

Andrew Link convened the meeting at 7:30 PM.

- Andrew Link asked for nominations for Chairperson. Janet Kane nominated Carmine DiSanzo. Ed Sproles seconded. There were no other nominations and Mr. Di Sanzo was unanimously re-elected Chairman.
- Chairman Di Sanzo asked for nominations for Vice-Chairperson. Ms. Kane nominated Rosemarie Clark. Ed Sproles seconded. There were no other nominations and Ms. Clark was unanimously elected Vice-Chairwoman.
- The November 2011 minutes were approved.
- The Committee unanimously approved the 2012 meeting schedule. The Committee unanimously agreed to change the starting time to 7:00 PM subject to the agreement of the absent members.
- Mr. Link presented a 10-Year Woodland Management Plan that was prepared for Britton Realty of Lawrenceville, LLC for their property on Baker's Basin and Basin Roads. Ms. Kane expressed concern that a change to farmland assessment will further reduce the Township's tax base. Judy Bubar said that the proposal should be reviewed for any increase in erosion in an environmentally sensitive area. Chairman Di Sanzo said that the concept of thinning the existing trees to promote the growth of selected trees is a good one. He said that there would have to be monitoring to make sure that there is no inappropriate cutting. The Committee will review the proposal in detail and discuss it again at the February meeting.
- For Arbor Day, the Committee would like to plant another tree at the Lawrenceville Elementary School to continue the line of trees planted on previous Arbor Days. Chairman Di Sanzo will ask Councilman Powers for his feeling on the willingness of the school to participate.
- The Committee agreed to be co-sponsors of the Nature Center's tree walk which is scheduled for the Arbor Day evening on April 27. Additional tree identification needs to be done.

- Mr. Link said that the Committee's informational piece is being considered for inclusion in the Township calendar.
- Chairman Di Sanzo said the he was disappointed that only the Lawrence Sun printed the recent press release on tree issues. There was a discussion of how to target future press releases to increase the likelihood of being published. Some ideas were to keep them short, timely, targeted and tied into an event when possible. Chairman Di Sanzo asked that the press release be sent again.
- Doris Weisberg had communicated that Councilman Maffei is agreeable to having a large tree photographed that Ms. Weisberg had observed on his property. Mr. Sproles will follow-up. Ms. Bubar said that she would take additional photographs of trees throughout the Township.
- Chairman Di Sanzo asked Mr. Link to make an inquiry if the Township would be agreeable to requiring that tree companies notify the Township in advance when they propose to cut any tree 8" in caliper or greater. He is interested in sending a letter to all of the tree companies to inform them of our ordinance. He also proposed creating a pamphlet on proper mulching to be handed out at the ecological center when people pick up mulch.
- Ms. Kane has been working on developing a power point presentation with the assistance of Chairman Di Sanzo. The Committee approved scheduling a talk at the County Library where the presentation can be debuted.
- Ms. Kane said that the Library approved distributing information if we provide a container. Chairman Di Sanzo said he would make the container. The Committee will finalize ideas on what to distribute and about stamping it as being supplied by the Committee.
- Chairman Di Sanzo said that he would like to focus on education and tree preservation for the year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Andrew Link
Principal Planner