

**Westwood Shade Tree Advisory Committee – Minutes – February 8, 2010**

**Attendance: S. Scherba, L. Hayes, and P. Grefrath**

**Meeting began at 7:30 PM**

**Opening of the Meeting:**

The meeting was called to order by Linda Hayes at 7:30 pm. Sheryl Scherba then read the Open Public Meetings Law Statement: "This meeting which conforms to the Open Public Meetings law, Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975, is a regular Westwood Shade Tree Advisory meeting. Notices have been filed with our local official newspapers and posted on the municipal bulletin board."

**Telephone Messages:**

- There were no telephone messages during the period from Jan 12 through Feb 8<sup>th</sup>

**Council Liaison:**

Peter stated that we need to add an area on the Agenda for Public Forum.

**Public Forum:**

Motion to open the Agenda/Public Forum by Linda Hayes, Second: Sheryl Scherba  
No one from the public attended this meeting.

Motion to close the Agenda/Public Forum by Linda Hayes, Second: Sheryl Scherba

**Changes to the Municipal Code:**

- A motion to dismiss the position of "assistant chairman" from 6-9 B Article II was approved.
- We agreed to change all references to Shade Tree Advisory Committee from Shade Tree Commission that are in the Code, even the historical ones.
- Additional changes will be made to the Code, and that the two pertinent sections of the Code (sections 195 and 367) must be reviewed and included in the review conducted by the grant person assigned to create the new Ordinance being developed to replace Ordinance 05-14.

**Tree Inventory:**

Paul Cowie & Associates continue to work on the project.

**Ordinance:**

On November 23<sup>rd</sup> Chris wrote and sent the letter to apply for 2009 Business Stimulus Fund from the State of New Jersey – NJ Forestry Service. The funds would be used to secure the professional services of John Anlian in an effort to rewrite a Shade Tree ordinance. We have been approved for this grant. Linda will give to Karen Hughes the grant agreement to be signed by the Mayor and sent back to the State of NJ by the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.

**Spring Tree Planting 2010:**

All committee members should let Linda know if they see any other areas in the borough that could be planted this spring. We should all be on the lookout for future planting and pruning sites.

**Westwood School Reorganization:**

A possible bus lane is being proposed in front of Ketler School on Third Avenue. Linda, Peter and Ginny attended the planning board meeting in regards to this matter. Linda gave Paul Cowie a copy of the tentative plans and asked for his opinion on how the trees will be affected in the area. Approximately 5 London Planes trees will be compromised – one being removed and the others are being damaged by construction activity in the area. Also, approximately seven memorial trees will be removed on the property as well as numerous trees along the driveway to the left of the school will be compromised. Linda and Sheryl will type up a letter to be given to the planning board of our findings on this matter with instructions to contact Linda if they have any further questions in regards to this.

**Tree City USA and Accomplishment Report:**

Linda and Ginny are currently collecting information and preparing these reports.

**Arbor Day:**

A discussion was had on what to do for this year on Arbor Day – we are to advise Linda if we come up with any ideas.

Meeting ended at 8:20 PM