

Westwood Shade Tree Advisory Committee – Minutes – March 10, 2008

Attendance: V. Sauer, L. Hayes, S. Scherba, C. Leyden, and J. Russo

Meeting began at 7:30 PM

The February 2008 minutes were voted on and approved.

Telephone Messages:

- Resident from Lexington Ave called to say that she thinks too many trees are coming down and would like more replaced.
- Janet Dunn – Westwood Library – would like to do something at the library for Arbor Day
- Resident called because they wanted to know the guidelines for tree removal on any given property.
- Various calls from residents on Lexington, Lowell, Lotus after receiving notification that we will be planting in the right of way area in front of their homes would like to decline planting at this time.
- Resident on Lafayette Terrace would like to see a tree replanted in the cul de sac at the end of his street.
- Resident from Lafayette Avenue wanted our input on what could be done to prevent a neighbor installing a pool, cutting down trees and running a water drain line through her property.

Correspondence:

A letter was received from the State of NJ– Division of Parks and Forestry which stated that we did not meet the requirements for Approved Status under the NJ Shade Tree and Community Forest Assistance Act in 2007. In general this meant that we would not receive liability protection under the Act for the year 2007. We are in disagreement of this letter and Ginny and Linda have been in contact with the Community Forestry Program in regards to this letter. Details to follow at the April meeting.

Arbor Day:

Linda will drop off posters and pamphlets to Janet Dunn at the Westwood Library. We will be planting a tree in the park area on Third Avenue.

Spring Planting:

The letter to inform of tree planting has been delivered to all residents involved. We are starting to receive calls from residents who would prefer not to have a tree planted at this time.

Mayor and Council Meeting:

Linda, Ginny, John. R and Sheryl attended the meeting on March 4, 2008. Ginny read the Shade Tree Mission Statement and Linda touched on the importance of the Planning Board, Building Department, DPW and Shade tree all working together to enforce the tree ordinance. Also suggested educating residents about what they can and cannot do with trees on their own property and sending an informational mailer to local landscapers and masons informing them of Westwood rules. Articles were written about our section of the meeting in both the Community Life and Pascack Press Newspapers.

Core Training:

Rick Woods attended the Core Training session held in Paramus.

Meeting ended at 9:30 PM