

Westwood Shade Tree Advisory Committee - Minutes – November 12, 2012

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

Meeting began at 7:30 PM

The meeting was called to order by Linda Hayes at 7:30 PM, Sheryl Scherba 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."

The October 2012 minutes were voted on and approved.

Telephone Messages:

- Ed Stenkevitch of Boswell Engineering called regarding CVS – Jefferson Avenue trees
- Resident 460 Fairview Ave – tree down from storm questions

CVS – Jefferson Ave:

It was brought to our attention that the Mayor and Council already voted to remove the two existing trees on the property. They want *continuity* in the area and want to install pavers and are asking STAC for recommendations of replacing the 2 trees as well as putting an additional tree on Broadway. STAC discussed this matter and after reviewing, decided that we could not recommend any tree for the Broadway side of the property for the most obvious reason of adverse "*sight triangle*" problem for traffic. We can only recommend that one tree be replaced on the Jefferson side and that tree should be a small columnar tree so not to interfere with sidewalk or road traffic as it only has a small space in which to thrive. We would like to note that the two existing trees appear to be in good shape.

Council Liaison report - Ingrid Quinn did not attend the meeting.

Open items waiting for liaison to report back to us:

- **What is happening with the Care One project ?**
- **Why was \$9,755 taken from the restitution fund ?**
- **What is the status of the Grant approval for 5 year management plan ?**
- **When will the revised ordinance be voted on?**

October Shade Tree Federation Meeting

Two DPW employees and Ginny Sauer attended the meeting in October 2012

Ginny reported the following:

- **Three major tree genus (including maple, oak, and ash varieties) currently planted in New Jersey are threatened by invading species of insects. Suggestions for further plantings were recommended and will be posted on the web site.**
- **Westwood *may* wish to consider insuring public trees such as the large beech tree in Veterans park, in the instance when the loss of a tree so grand would severely reduce the beauty and integrity of the town's park.**
- **Soon a *green mill* will be constructed in Paterson where local DPWs will be able to drop off lumber – instead of paying hefty dunning costs for removal. The lumber can be brought to the mill and be utilized in various productive *green* ways. Currently, a mill is functioning successfully in Newark - an *urban mill*.**
- **There was a safety presentation for DPW workers and other tree representatives. Though very graphic – this was very informative and timely. Tree work and the machinery involved requires much care and safety precaution. It was suggested that Westwood look into having a similar presentation to all the DPW staff. Rutgers offers a special traveling class that they can hold on-site in Westwood. Linda will ask Rick if he might be interested in this.**

Tree Pruning:

In light of recent storms in the past year, it was discussed the great importance of taking care of our older trees. We need to budget money to maintain and prune these larger trees.

Budget 2013:

Linda will write up the budget similar to this year(2012) but also add an additional amount to cover “older tree” pruning.

Ketler:

Linda and Sheryl met to review the trees along Third Avenue in front of school. After reviewing, we could only see that possible one tree that stands to the left of the crosswalk may be a sight problem. STAC would

like to have Paul Cowie review the trees in regards to safety sight problems if any and write a written recommendation regarding the situation so that we could respond to Officer Durante.

Meeting ended at 9:00 PM