

## Westwood Shade Tree Advisory Committee - Minutes – March 11,2013

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

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 January 2013 minutes were voted on and approved.

### **Telephone Messages:**

- Resident at 36 Hurlbut question about a tree
- A stump removal company wanted to know if you need a permit to remove a tree on private property
- Resident at 137 Prospect Ave would like tree pruned that is scratching her roof tiles

**No one from the public attended this meeting.**

### **Council Liaison report -**

- J reported that the budget is as tight as ever
- A discussion was had on where we stand with the ordinance going forward as it is or should we remove the "commission" status and then would the Mayor and Council review it.

### ***Grant Approval for 5 Year Management Plan***

We received a go-ahead from the state to prepare Westwood's next five year management plan. The plan must to be completed by December 31, 2013. We need to notify the state who will be writing the plan.

## **Ketler:**

Linda and Ginny met with Patrolman, Matt Maclusky and CTE, Bill Comrey (a consultant and former head of Paramus' Public Works) to review the tree safety status in front of Ketler School. Preliminary discussion concluded that six trees should be removed and a fence installed by the sidewalk for student safety. The Committee proposes that new trees be replanted in appropriate spots - as it was determined that the very presence of the trees in front of the school help create a protective barrier between sidewalk and road traffic.

The group will meet again to finalize their recommendations.

## **Arbor Day:**

- Linda ordered 100 trees to be given out for Arbor Day. They will arrive on April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Ginny will post on the community bulletin board – Tree City USA – 10 years – Go green – plant a tree” Ginny will prepare an Arbor Day Proclamation to be read by the April Mayor and Council Meeting
- Information on planting a tree in memory of loved ones in our National forest will be placed in the local papers.

## **Current Issues:**

**Care One Project – Linda will ask in the building department if this project is moving forward.**

**Young tree pruning - CTE, Bill Murtaugh continues to prune the young street trees.**

**Mature tree pruning - the committee will need budgeted funds to prune the mature trees in town.**

Meeting ended at 8:30PM

