

DRAFT
Town of Red Hook
Tree Preservation Commission

April 13, 2009

Minutes

Attendance: Nancy Guski (chairman), Eleanor Friery, Marcy Appell, Rosemarie Zengen and Karen Cadorette (7:07 pm)

Absent: none

Guest: none

Purpose: This is a regular monthly rescheduled meeting of the Commission. The discussion will focus on the upcoming Arbor Day related activities.

Call to Order: Chairperson Nancy Guski called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes: Corrections to the minutes of March 17 included that Hudson Talbot was tentatively scheduled for April 25 and Eleanor went to the Rain Garden meeting. Marcy Appell moved to accept the minutes with the corrections and Eleanor Friery seconded, all agreed.

Discussions: The specifics of the Arbor Day Celebration were discussed. People will gather their materials for displays and give-aways to the public on Friday, 4-24. The tree order will come mid-week in cooperation with the Village Green Committee, headed by Chairman Brenda Cagle.

Eleanor Friery's school activities will primarily run from 4-27 to 5-01. She has met with all the first grade teachers. There is great enthusiasm and cooperation for the project and 9 first grades will be directly involved with rain dates scheduled. The activities include:

1. K-2 tree planting: read and discuss 4 books about trees
2. Class participants receive a tree guide "What Tree Is That?"
3. A tree planted in their honor by the school's Nature Area.
4. Sponsor a local Arbor Day poster contest; winner to receive a book about trees. (This will not be done as there is no time to judge posters.)

Nancy Guski explained that the filming of the Kindergarteners was completed and the CD was viewed at the last town board meeting. It is one and a half minutes of kids singing, with the words superimposed below the images and hugging trees. Rosemarie Zengen noted it was just the right amount of time and varied interest. She complemented Ted Saad for all his hard work. PANDA will be showing the CD as a "green spot" for Arbor Day.

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There are about 25 guides available for the children's backpacks. Eleanor Friery wanted to know about markers and stakes for the trees. Chairman Guski indicated we have the aluminum tags and she will take care of getting about 20 stakes to mark the foot high trees that will be planted by the first graders.

Nancy Guski, Eleanor Friery and Linda Keeling made 260 tree cookies for all the kids and magnets for distribution on Sat. 4-25th.

Principal Donna Gaynor will do a simple morning Arbor Day proclamation announcement at Mill Rd. Elementary School.

On Sat. 4-25, a fall fiesta maple will be planted to complete the line of maple trees near the tennis courts at the Rec Park. A dozen trees will be planted in the Wetland Walk. A "Robin Hill" Serviceberry will be planted in front of the Half Pint Day Care Center on Rockefeller Lane.

Marcy Appell, Jean Duntz and Susan McCann will organize the volunteer luncheon for the Town and Village participants at the town hall at noon.

Linda Keeling and Rosemarie Zengen will man the table under a tent in front of the library along side the CAC table manned by Ann Rubin. 50 seedlings will be given away from 10-1 pm, along with information on the Asian Longhorned Beetle and the Emerald Ash Borer and a lap top computer showing the CD information.

Nancy Guski volunteered to cover from noon to 1 pm. Linda Keeling and Colleen Zengen will be dressed in tree costumes under the Hug-a-Tree \$1.00 donation program. Linda Keeling will copy 100 flyers to accompany the seedlings. Rosemarie Zengen will oversee the press release information going out to the local newspapers and post it on the town's website.

Eleanor Friery reported on the Rain Garden meeting at the Ulster Town Hall, Lake Katrine by Donna Crawford. 40 rain gardens can purify 1 million gallons of water per year. These gardens can be as small as 100 sq. ft. They should be 10 ft. to 30 ft. away from a dwelling. The mass of plants vary so as to adjust for times of drought.

May is Watershed month. On May 6th, 150 trees, free through the DEC "Trees for Tribs" grant program, will be planted along the Sawkill Creek at the Rec. Park at 10 am under the direction of Kevin Greiser, Riparian Buffer Coordinator, with the help of about 15 volunteers.

Chairman Guski indicated that our budget is at \$999. Of that \$500 is still allocated for the Urban & Community Forest grant writer. \$50 will be paid to Judy Wolf's power point presentation at 2 pm on May 16th at the Town hall. Hudson Talbot will receive \$150 for his book talk at 2 pm at the Town Hall. Rosemarie will do the advertizing for the upcoming events.

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The group will not be participating in the Appleblossom event this year as we have a lot of activities going on in April and May as it is. We do expect to participate at Hardscrabble Day on September 26th.

Nancy Guski was given a flyer from Sue Crane on “New York State’s Green Innovation Grants Program” to be held on April 14th at Norrie Point. (flyer attached) but due to the short notice, no one could attend.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting is May 19, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the town hall. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month.

Concluded: Karen Cadorette motioned to end the meeting and Rosemarie Zengen seconded, all agreed. The meeting ended at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling,
TPC Secretary
April 21, 2009