

Town of Red Hook

Tree Preservation Commission

Minutes: April 12, 2011

Attendance: Chairperson Nancy Guski, Eleanor Friery, Karen Cadorette, Rosemarie Zengen, Marcy Appell, and Linda Keeling, secretary

Absent: Micki Strawinski, town council liaison

Guest: none

Purpose: Regular monthly meeting of the Commission is held on the third Tuesday of every month at the Town Hall. Note: this meeting was earlier due to extra time needed for preparing for the Arbor Day Festival plans.

Call to Order: Chairperson Nancy Guski called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm as a quorum was met.

Minutes: Chairman Guski wanted to correct her figures from last month. The seedlings cost \$135 not \$100. We started with a budget of \$1200. Of that \$600 was spent on the grant which left \$600 not \$800 as reported. \$369 was spent on three trees. The statement that Eleanor will need money for the Arbor Day Tree Manual is incorrect, we will not because Rosemarie Zengen got a 100 booklets donated. Hudsonia will not be there. The CAC will be there but the 10% challenge is the compost bins. Denise Barton will not be there with the electric car. Under #7 it is Tree City Luncheon.

Eleanor clarified item #4: some teachers have to be in school for the make-up day, not all of them from the 18th to the 20th. The Nature Trail Guide will be refined by Steve and Eleanor. The lessons will be from April 27th to May 10th. Seedlings will be planted by the first grade only. Eleanor informed Micki Strawinski that she didn't need the buckets. Eleanor will not need money for the books but other things.

MOTION: Marcy Appell motioned to accept the minutes with the corrections and Karen Cadorette seconded. All agreed.

Discussions:

1. **Tree Themed Books:** There was some discussion about the books selected. Nancy got three books for children from LL Bean (The Happiness Tree and Christmas Farms (tree farms) and Eleanor is supplying six books.

2. **Arbor Day Booths:** Rosemarie Zengen inquired as to the number of booths not filled at this time and the fact that the Village Green tree group will not be joining our event. Nancy felt that with all that participate with the booths, the food from Hannaford will be eaten.

3. **Money:** Rosemarie indicated she will only need money for the approved sign.

4. **Tree City Luncheon:** Nancy described the luncheon she attended at the Holiday Express in Albany. She felt it was better than last year in regards to food and presenters. She highlighted some information presented:

a. **Emerald Ash Borer:** Nancy described why inventories are important for identifying ash trees, the borer doesn't travel more than 100 meters, wind is not a factor, they have good eyesight and woodpeckers are an indicator that the tree is in trouble as they seek out the larva, ash trees are often in riparian zones.

b. **Saratoga Nursery:** The Saratoga Nursery was there. This is where we get our tree seedlings. (Schichtel's 7420 Peters Rd. Springville, NY 14141) They have a special species program to help propagate special tree species, green infrastructure natives, green roofs, a seed processing plant, working on genetically engineered American Chestnut, ash seed collection, sheep and invasive weed control, live snow fences and they grow all their own trees.

c. **Power Companies Represented:** Aside from Tree City, they have Tree Line USA whereby they work with power companies and honor them (ie: Con Ed and National Grid with Brian Skinner serving on the Board of Tree City) for their work in the communities. Nancy suggested she write a professional letter to Central Hudson to encourage them to be more proactive, all agreed

d. **State Forester:** The NYS DEC State Forester was there and he was the delegate to go the U.N. for the 2011 International Year of the Forests. He showed a film that was made. There were 700 participants from 192 countries. Croatia recommended this event 2 years ago but no one wanted to do it including the USA. 31 % of the Earth is forested which houses 80% of the biodiversity. A 12 yr. old boy spoke and he was terrific.

e. **College Campuses:** Tree campuses were represented but Bard was not there. Nancy will remind them next year.

f. **Tree City Poster Winner:** The winner of the poster contest, Arianna was there with her whole family as well as another little girl. The winning poster said: "Take the Challenge, Be a Tree Hero" with a superhero drawn.

g. **Items Received:** Nancy said we received another flag (which is hanging outside the town hall), hat and tree stickers, desk paper weight. This is our 5th year. She will contact Tree City to get two more stickers for our entrance gateway signs.

MOTION: Rosemarie Zengen motioned to leave the desk paper weight with the Town Clerk so it can be safely displayed in a public location. Marcy Appell seconded and all agreed.

Nancy noted that the Village of Rhinebeck is a Tree City member for their first year.

h. **ReLeaf Conference:** The Conference is July 14-16 at New Paltz with the emphasis on planning. Nancy will send a reminder and brochure to our Planning, Zoning and Recreation boards. This is a two for one event and educational training will be received toward their requirement for attending members. Nancy will go during the day and return home since it is so close.

5. Arbor Day Reports:

a. Eleanor reported the last reminder sheet went out. She met with the first and third grade teachers. She will be meeting with a total of 15 classes: 7 first grades, 6 third grades, 1 Kindergarten, and 1 fourth grade. Eleanor requested volunteer assistance to work on the Nature Trail April 18th and 19th to use a post hole digger (owned by the school) to set the poles. (Eleanor will use her truck to get the poles and cut them with her circular saw) Rosemarie Zengen suggested her caretaker, Tom Mollica, who wouldn't mind volunteering his time for a couple of hours. Karen Cadorette offered mulch for the trail instead of going to the town. Discussion focused on how to display the winning posters. The poster judging is at noon, Tuesday, April 26th, at Eleanor's house.

b. Nancy reported that she ordered the three trees and seedlings. We are planting at the Rec Park and St. Margarets, a replacement little leaf linden. Nancy will shorten the Proclamation and thank people.

c. Rosemarie would like the Hannaford Tree Sign re-erected. She passed around her booth location plan. She presented the stationery which everyone thought was very classy but Eleanor's name was misspelled. Rosemarie thanked Dick Wambach who did it for free. The posters for Arbor Day were presented. Again, Dick Wambach printed them all for free. Although Greig's name was misspelled, it was felt that it was ok as it. She said it might cost \$10-15 to change it. Everyone felt that was fine and agreed to 50 posters to start. Joe Tobin and Friends will perform for free. He will sell his album. Terry's Bakery will do a sheet cake and free tree cookies. Ben of Village Pizza will donate 2 large pizzas. Micki Strawinski will make coffee and Jean Duntz will provide paper goods. The sign for the event will be in front of the town hall. The sign will cost \$85 and Dutchess Signs will contribute \$35 so it will cost the Tree Committee \$50. The Commission agreed to the expense. Wonderland Florist will do a free center piece. There will be 9 Arbor Day Posters to give away. Nancy will put together a gift basket with things like gift certificates from Grandiflora, Mac's Agway, garden gloves, pot feet, etc for a raffle. Migliorelli will donate 6 gallons of cider for the luncheon. Northwind, Greig and Migliorelli and the Village Police will have a display. Fred Cartier will do a free videotaping with copies for sale. The bank said we can use their parking. A press release will be sent. Nancy will make sure the Recycling gate will remain open by talking to Theresa. Eleanor and Karen will bring their tents in case of rain.

MOTION: Marcy Appell motioned to end the meeting and Eleanor Friery seconded, all agreed.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 17, 2011.**

Concluded: The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary