

Town of Red Hook
Tree Preservation Commission
Minutes: May 17, 2011

Attendance: Chairperson Nancy Guski, Eleanor Friery, Rosemarie Zengen and Linda Keeling, secretary

Absent: Karen Cadorette, Marcy Appell and Micki Strawinski, town council liaison

Guest: none

Location: Town Hall, Red Hook

Purpose: Regular monthly meeting of the Commission is held on the third Tuesday of every month at the Town Hall.

Call to Order: Chairperson Nancy Guski called the meeting to order at 7: 05 pm as a quorum was met. She handed out the agenda.

Minutes: The minutes from April 12, 2011 were reviewed. There were no corrections or additions. Members noted the high quality and detail of the minutes as there was much going on in preparing for the Arbor Day event.

MOTION: Eleanor Friery motioned to accept the minutes and Rosemarie Zengen seconded. All agreed.

Discussions:

1. **Arbor Day Event Reviewed:** Chairman Guski showed photographs of the Arbor Day event. She also wrote thank you letters to all that participated in the activities which included Joe Tobin, Joyce Cole for the white oak memorial tree planted at the Rec Park, Dick Wambach for the new stationery, all the school principals and others. Nancy especially thanked Rosemarie Zengen for the wonderful Arbor Day festival event planning and Eleanor Friery for her work with the school children. The event was extremely successful. Linda noted that Joe Tobin was given a free potted white spruce tree for his service.

Nancy gave a special thank you to the secretary, Linda Keeling, who accompanied her to Millbrook to pick up the trees and all the time and energy to hand wrap, pot and label the seedlings as well as staying all day helping out. Nancy appreciates everyone's niche expertise which all comes together every time. She noted she couldn't do it without everyone's pitching in.

Nancy indicated that the three trees planted are doing fine. There was some discussion on the location of the event which all felt was perfect at the town hall this year based on its visibility. Although the Rec Park offers a more tree-filled atmosphere and more parking, the town hall's

visibility brought in more customers than last year's location. Nancy felt the size of the event was fine and attracted many local people. Members felt there is room for some expansion for next year.

Rosemarie Zengen felt that it was a little confusing with the Village Green having their event at the Elmendorph Inn. She felt that it would have been nicer had they joined our group for the day. Nancy agreed and noted that the way Rosemarie set up the luncheon was beautiful and she was very proud of the event. Rosemarie added that she thought Nancy's speech was the best. Nancy was delighted that the dignitaries came and presented the proclamations.

Norman Grieg's hay ride turned out fine and the farmers, in general, were very pleased to participate and would be willing to come again.

2. **Future Event Idea:** Rosemarie Zengen has other ideas and offered the suggestion of an Ice Cream Social between Hardscrabble Mall and St. Margaret's perhaps for Hardscrabble Day. She's already talked to Pat Bowman of Holy Cow who is in agreement.

3. **Reports / Meetings:** Nancy said that when she reports to the Tree City folks, they will be very impressed with our Arbor Day celebration event. She attended an Urban Forestry Conference meeting in Millbrook on 5/16. They are taking input for the upcoming July conference which will be at New Paltz. Two people will be able to go at the cost for one. They hope to attract Planning and Zoning Board members. Some of the topics will include: Emerald Ash Borer, Promoting Native Plants, Parking Lot Design, Where Trees Meet the Sidewalk, Management Plans and Ordinances. There will be tours of Emerald Ash Borer infestation in Saugerties, Huguenot Street and wine tasting at the Mohonk Mountain House Tour.

Nancy noted we are still in anticipation of getting the NYSDEC Urban Forestry grant for an inventory. Notification is in July. She noted that the Town of Hyde Park voted to put in 9 rain gardens but the new board members reversed that decision.

Nancy has a concern about developing ordinances. She noted that the Town of Cortland which developed a very stringent ordinance fired the writer and is ignoring the ordinance. She wants our ordinance to be simple yet thorough so it is adhered to.

4. **Donations Received:** Linda asked Nancy about money donations and requested Rosemarie describe the value of things donated from the community for the Arbor Day event. Nancy indicated that \$125 was received from seedlings and free materials along with \$100 for the Memorial tree from Joyce Cole. This money was put back into our budget by Debbie Marks.

Rosemarie indicated that the *Hannaford* buffet items was worth about \$350, cake \$45, *Terry's Bakery* cookies \$45, *Dutchess Sign Shop* \$35 as he only charge \$50, *Copy Cat* printing \$150, entertainment *Joe Tobin* \$300, *Wonderland Florist* \$125, *Mac Agway* \$25 gift certificate, *Wambach Communications* graphic design \$500, *F&M Printing* \$50, stationery \$75, flatware and cups from Rosemarie Zengen, *Greig Farm* tractor use \$200, 4 gallons of cider from *Migliorelli Farm* about \$20, soda from *Marcy Appell* about \$20, garden basket from *Nancy Guski* about \$75 and a portion of the \$167.33 from *Eleanor Friery* for books.

The total donations were well over \$1,000 (actually closer to over \$2,000). Our expenses were \$49 for posters and \$50 for signage for a total of \$99. Nancy Guski again thanked Rosemarie Zengen for all her hard work in getting the donations and pulling it altogether.

5. **Publicity Coverage:** Rosemarie had Fred Cartier volunteer film the event and it was shown several times on PANDA. Video copies can be purchased for \$10 each from Fred.

6. **Eleanor Friery's Report Summary:** 390 students participated in the poster contest, 22 won prizes of books. Students on the Nature Trail received bookmarks, certificates and stickers. Fifteen classes of children grades 1-3 participated in instruction. 100 seedlings were planted by Steve Hart. Thanks to Thomas Mollica of Red Hook for digging the holes and Karen Cadorette for the wood chips. She noted next year she will advertise that the poster contest drawing should be done at school only.

7. **Memorial Trees:** Nancy wants to keep this simple. The donor will purchase the tree. We will purchase a tree, secure a planting site, plant, maintain and replace the tree. The donor will purchase their own plaque and run their own dedication or we can participate. Linda inquired if a list is going to be maintained. Nancy replied that she has the start of a list and it could be posted on the town's website if and when we could get a page.

Rosemarie asked about planting trees between St. Margaret's and the wall of the Hardscrabble Mall. Nancy suggested Rosemarie consult the St. Margaret's Committee. The Tree Commission would be willing to plant trees. She noted that the grant application includes planting 8 trees at St. Margaret's in the spring of 2012, including hydrangeas in the front near the porch, after the construction crews are done. Linda suggested consulting an overall site planting map. Nancy will contact Jim Cadorette about his completed inventory of the site.

There was some discussion on the cost of a tree and its replacement.

MOTION: Rosemarie Zengen motioned that the cost of a Memorial Tree be \$200 to match the Village's price. Eleanor Friery seconded, all agreed.

8. **Personal Fund Donation:** Nancy's chiropractor, Dr. Greg Soltanoff of Kingston, read Nancy's letter to the editor and was impressed with our work. He and his wife have a small fund for supporting environmental projects. He requested that Nancy put together a packet of information for them to review. Linda suggested Nancy make duplicates of these promotional materials for future requests. There was some additional discussion on the specifics of promotional materials and their preparation.

Adjournment: *MOTION: Eleanor Friery motioned to adjourn the meeting and Rosemarie Zengen seconded, all agreed.*

Concluded: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 21, 2011.**

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary