

Town of Red Hook

Tree Preservation Commission

**Minutes: March 20, 2013**

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

**Absent:** Marcy Appell, Karen Cadorette and Brenda Cagle, Town Council Liaison

**Guest:** Dick Wambach

**Location:** Red Hook Town Hall

**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 2:01 pm. This was a special change in time meeting. There was a quorum. Nancy handed out a packet of materials related to the discussion for the Forestry Management Plan. She introduced our guest.

**Minutes:** There were no corrections or additions.

**MOTION:** *Eleanor Friery motioned to accept the minutes for the February 19, 2013 minutes. Rosemarie Zengen seconded, all agreed.*

**OLD BUSINESS:** Arbor Day

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Arbor Day, Sat. April 27<sup>th</sup>, 9-2:** Festivities will be at the town hall. *Rosemarie Zengen* has secured the hay ride (Norman Greig), food stands (Migliorelli & Northwind Farms) and 4 piece band (Chain Gang, music from the 50's to 80's or a DJ), and speakers: Marcus Molinaro, Bryan Cranna and Ed Blundell. Rosemarie Zengen asked for a budget and she was allowed \$60. Hannaford will supply food and paper goods, Stewart's drink juices, Terry's Bakery cake and Jeanne Duntz has agreed to oversee the volunteer luncheon again. The Village Green will join that day. They have agreed to pay for some of the food.

*Eleanor Friery* will have the winning posters on display. *Linda Keeling* will care for and give out the free seedlings and tree related literature. Plaque markers for the Molinaro and Appell Memorial trees will be placed. Nancy Guski will ask Ted Saad who is on the Board of PANDA if he can film the event and get the information on their calendar. Rosemarie Zengen presented her draft poster and corrections were made. Micki Strawinski will also coordinate the town's road clean up that day, too.

*Rosemarie Zengen* showed a poster for the Northwind Farms' Lily Day planting day on Sat. May 4<sup>th</sup> from 11-2 pm at the Northwind Farms on West Kerley Corners Rd. involving volunteers. Chairman Nancy Guski noted that the DOT will have to be contacted regarding the planting of lilies in the right-of-way just like our tree planting has done in the past.

**A. Framed Drawing Raffle:** *Dick Wambach* indicated he could put the poster information on the town's website and further develop the website for the group. He will have a booth at the event and offered a framed drawing (worth \$200) as a raffle prize. He offered to put the event in *Creative Living* and *Northern Dutchess News'* calendar of events. Rosemarie Zengen inquired what a small ad would cost. For the NDN it would be 1/8 page for \$50.

**MOTION:** *Rosemarie Zengen* motioned to pay the \$50 to *Northern Dutchess News* for the ad, *Eleanor Friery* seconded, all agreed.

*Linda Keeling* suggested also contacting the Red Hook CAN artists to see if they want to have a booth to display local art work.

*Eleanor Friery* volunteered to bring her tents.

*Rosemarie Zengen* volunteered to write a press release. She will coordinate everything with Dick Wambach's press contacts and F&M Printing.

*Chairman Guski* noted she ordered the seedlings and gave a copy of the list to *Linda Keeling* so she can start organizing the plants.

**B. Mill Road Elementary School:** *Eleanor Friery* described the brochure and the poster contest which was handed out to the principals. A yellow sheet hand-out was given to teachers. She ordered the book prizes. On April 18<sup>th</sup>, noon, at her house, committee members will judge the posters. She ordered 50 Arbor Day posters for \$2.98. She noted that PANDA filmed her lessons last year and might run that video in June on TV 23.

**C. Tree City Luncheon, Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>:** *Eleanor Friery* and *Linda Keeling* will attend this luncheon in Albany. *Nancy Guski* noted it is a great way to make physical contact with other communities and to learn what they are doing regarding trees.

**D. Emerald Ash Borer Workshop, March 21, Millbrook Home and Farm Center:** *Linda Keeling* will be attending the meeting and will report back to the group as no one else was able to attend.

**2. Forestry Management Plan:** *Chairman Nancy Guski* said she needs to write up the parts more formerly. She handed out additional reference materials for the group to consider.

**3. Recreation Park Parking Lot Replanting:** *Chairman Nancy Guski* explained that on Arbor Day, 17 trees will be planted at the Recreational Park parking lot. She attended the Rec Park's Board meeting and presented the proposal to renovate the five tree lawns that are 5 ft. wide and continuous soils. The poorly pruned and stunted crab apple trees will be removed. *Nancy Guski* showed her pictorial layout drawing and explained the bloom times and height variations. There will be 5 types of trees no wider than 15 ft. The largest tree is a red maple and the smallest is 40 ft. high x 15 ft. wide. Some of the varieties to be planted are: ivory silk lilac with cone-shaped white blooms, cherry tree with red blooms, crab apple trees, and red maples. Hopefully, it will provide interest for all seasons. *Nancy* noted she consulted with *Nina Basik* from Cornell, *Karen Cadorette*, *Brenda Cagle* and *Schichtels*. It will cost \$1,230 and planted by volunteers. The holes will be dug ahead by volunteer *Michele Decker* of *Decker's Construction*. Rec Park volunteers will help plant.

*Linda Keeling* asked if any of the old plantings can be reused. The Rec Park Board asked the same question. *Nancy Guski* indicated perhaps a few in a different location by the Rec Park.

*Dick Wambach and Rosemarie Zengen left at 2:56 pm.*

**4. Commemorative Tree Program Application and Guidelines Forms:** The group reviewed the forms created by Linda Keeling. Minor changes were made to the guideline page. Linda will make the changes and send them on to Chairman Nancy Guski so they can be posted on the website.

**5. Forestry Management Plan:** *Eleanor Friery* wrote a one page sheet history of what the group has done for outreach. *Chairman Guski* felt the group has done an excellent job with outreach with the schools, the annual poster contest for K-5 with 3 winners at each grade level receiving a book about trees, indoor and outdoor classroom lessons, teacher contact and participation of middle school children through the Who Cares Club, scout groups, libraries and local businesses. Free tree seedlings and literature is distributed. The group is represented at community events like Arbor Day, Apple Blossom Day and Hardscrabble Day. The website and PANDA will further our contact with the public. Press releases are sent out and the Commemorative Tree Program is advertised, too.

*Nancy Guski* suggested putting together a general events calendar to aid future tree volunteers in planning for the yearly activities. Everyone thought this would be a great help to us now and for future volunteers.

*Nancy Guski* wants to make sure the FMP fits in with all the other laws and guidelines: zoning, our tree ordinance, the Centers and Greenspace, etc. She focused on the notes and specifics of the details listed: caliper size (1.25 in. to 2.50 in.), primarily native species, tree lawns (10 ft. to 4 ft) and planting further in where the sidewalk meets the curb.

*Nancy Guski* focused the discussion on timber harvesting, trees during construction and deer damage. (There's a 1783 bill for the right to practice farming and timbering) The whole inventory indicated 670 planting sites. Pitcher Lane added almost 150 records: 67 trees need "immediate prune", 286 trees need "no maintenance", 6% trees have >75% deadwood, 83% trees are in "good condition", 30 trees need "consult" and 103 trees are sugar maples. She will consult with Highway Superintendent Theresa Burke on taking down some hazardous trees. Norman Greig asked her to go to the Ag and Open Space in regards to planting trees on Pitcher Lane to get farmers input.

Once the Inventory and FMP are complete, the group can apply for a maintenance grant.

**MOTION:** *Eleanor Friery* motioned to adjourn the meeting, *Nancy Guski* seconded, all agreed.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm

**Next Meeting:** The next regular meeting is **Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 7:00 pm** to continue discussions of the Forestry Management Plan and finalize plans for Arbor Day

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary

Approved as corrected 4/16/13