

Town of Red Hook

Tree Preservation Commission

Minutes: February 25, 2014

Attendance: Chairperson Nancy Guski, Eleanor Friery, Marcy Appell and Linda Keeling, secretary

Absent: Karen Cadorette, Rosemarie Zengen and Brenda Cagle Town Council Liaison

Guest: None

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. **Note:** The regular day meeting was canceled due to weather conditions. It was held a week later and at an earlier time of 4:00 pm.

Call to Order: *Chairperson Nancy Guski* called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. She handed out an agenda. She called attention to the new pictures on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Minutes: There was a quorum. There were no changes to last month's minutes.

Motion: *Marcy Appell* motioned to accept the January 22, 2014 minutes, *Eleanor Friery* seconded and all agreed.

Agenda Items: Call to Order, Minutes, Correspondence, Arbor Day Spring Planting (luncheon, school, seedlings, town hall, plantings), new business

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Correspondence:

a. **Tree City Designation:** Chairman Nancy Guski informed the group that we have been designated a Tree City for the 7th year and will probably get the growth award, too. Nancy said the bio-blitz and having finished the Forest Management Plan added to the completeness of the application.

b. **Albany Luncheon:** Nancy Guski handed out invitation cards to the members for the annual luncheon at the Albany Hilton for March 27th from 9:30 am-2:00 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Stationery:** *Chairman Nancy Guski* will get new stationery without the error for one name.

2. **Books:** *Eleanor Friery* will try to get the Lorax for the Nature Trail Program and other titles for the school contest program. She suggested we get some from the forester, George. Nancy will contact him.

3. **School Seedling Order:** *Eleanor Friery* informed the group she put the seedling order in and she will have them delivered to her house this time. She handed out a copy of what she hands out to the school for the contest. Nancy Guski will help again and take pictures. She will also pick up some books at LL Bean.

Linda Keeling reminded all, that if they belong to the Arbor Day Foundation, to order the free trees and she will pot them up for distribution at one of our events.

4. **Arbor Day Plans Sat. April 26th**: The event will be at the town hall. Hopefully, the town clean up group will join us. Nancy Guski will get in touch with Micki Strawinski.

Michele Decker is willing to dig the holes again. Nancy gave Michele a copy of our Forestry Management Plan for her comments. She was delighted to receive it.

The Schichtel's tree order was sent in. We all bemoaned the fact that the shipping and handling will cost us nearly the cost of one tree from now on.

A new tree will be planted at the town hall. The Rec Park will have a replacement red oak tree planted in a different area from where the two oak trees died.

The Rec Park Pool group is willing to have trees planted in the right-of-way in front of their building to soften the look and reduce noise for the neighboring property. *Nancy Guski* made a site visit in the snow. We discussed what might be planted there. Nancy suggested elm trees and after discussions it was decided that we could try one or two but noted oak trees might be a sturdier tree even though the elms have been bred to be resistant to the Dutch elm disease. There are no overhead wires so larger trees can go in there. *Linda Keeling* mentioned there might be a sidewalk going down there in the future to the new park. Nancy will also check with the County as Linden Avenue is a county road. So we will spend about \$500 for trees for the spring which includes the gel dipping and shipping costs.

A tree will be dedicated to George Hildenbrand on Arbor Day whereby the family can enjoy the luncheon. *Chairman Nancy Guski* has the plaque. She will talk to Teresa Burke also.

There will be only two speakers for the event. *Rosemarie Zengen* had previously agreed to organize the vendors and activities.

Marcy Appell will organize the food, call Griff's Deli and make contact with Jeanne Duntz to see if she is willing to do the event again.

Linda Keeling will organize the seedlings again. The group discussed what varieties we want to give out this year: balsam fir, white spruce, butterfly bush, elderberry, lilac, sergeant crabapple, river birch and white flowering dogwood, 80 in all. Linda hopes the former trees potted up make it through this tough winter so that will add some additional ones for donations. Linda suggested having a notebook with pictures of the trees to make it easier for the public when selecting their variety.

Karen Cadorette and *Nancy Guski* will organize the tree plantings. Nancy hopes to be able to use the completed Forestry Management Plan when selecting the trees and locations for the plantings.

Nancy Guski will get in touch with PANDA to see if the event can be filmed.

Adjournment:

Motion: *Eleanor Friery* motioned to adjourn the meeting, *Marcy Appell* seconded and all agreed. *Chairman Guski* adjourned the meeting at 4:40 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 18th maybe at 4:00 pm again.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary, Approved 4-15-14