

Town of Red Hook  
**Tree Preservation Commission**  
**Minutes: June 17, 2014**

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

**Absent:** Brenda Cagle Town Council Liaison (Note: Rosemarie Zengen resigned)

**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.

**Call to Order:** *Chairperson Nancy Guski* called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. She handed out an agenda.

**Minutes:** There was a quorum. There were a few minor changes to last month's minutes.

*Chairman Guski:* Page 2, ph 2: She didn't think the Forestry Management Plan needs to be passed by the town board. She would like it to be... "we suggest the following topics in the Forestry Management Plan". Page 2, ph 7: change with the Planning Board to "by herself and took photos."

**Motion:** *Eleanor Friery* motioned to accept the May 20, 2014 minutes, *Marcy Appell* seconded and all agreed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Correspondence:** *Chairman Guski* noted that the Chronogram magazine had a nice article on Urban Trees. *Karen Cadorette* mentioned that our Tree Commission was mentioned awhile ago in one of their past articles. Perhaps it can be found online.

*Rosemarie Zengen* resigned from the Tree Committee and *Chairman Guski* sent her a letter of appreciation and she called her to express the Committee's appreciation for all she did for us. She worked very hard, did the job and then some. A new member will need to be recommended to the town board to fill her position. Nancy Guski will contact Victoria Rolfe who worked on the tree inventory.

**2. Condition of the Trees:** *Chairman Guski* indicated there is a good survival rate for the trees planted. The 2008 serviceberries planted at the Rec Park near the Wetland Walk have tall trees behind them which need trimming in order to allow more sunlight for them. She will ask the Rec Park if they can do the trimming. The two viburnum that planted at the entrance to the trail died. Also, the winterberries are alive but not very robust. A male and female are needed which she ordered but perhaps they are not close enough. *Karen Cadorette* suggested instead of moving them just buy more as there would be less shock to their root system. Only the females have berries which are evident.

Nancy was worried about the 2011 planting of the four Prairie Fire Crabapples at the south end of the Rec Park as they do not seem to be doing very well. She uncovered the wrap and discovered a fungus so they will have to be looked at again. *Karen Cadorette* mentioned that junipers and crabapple don't do well together as rust disease is transmitted. Nancy Guski also mentioned that Integral's work will be paid for including the elm tree at the snack shack area.

*Nancy Guski* noted that 1/3 planted swamp white oak died and was replaced and it died so this spot will not be planted again.

Marcy Appell's memorial tree is doing real well along with the Molinaro family tree.

For the 2012 planting everything is fine except the telia Americana legion planted in the BROW on Guski Rd. It was a very hard winter.

*Karen Cadorette* reported root feed costs \$25 per bag and makes 15 gallon. Karen also noted that at no charge Integral root fed the trees at the park and they look great.

*Nancy Guski* noted that the 17 trees planted at the parking lot are doing well so far. The fall of 2013 plantings seem okay. The 2014 spring planting of three almus triumph in front of the pool at Linden Ave. seem fine with some die back. Nancy did contact Jennifer Melitski of the Pool Board to make arrangements for them to water the trees. She indicated it is a job of the lifeguards. Nancy and Karen will arrange for a tree check day.

**3. Forest Management Plan (FMP):** *Chairman Guski* gave an update on the Draft FMP which is now on the website for the Tree Commission. She contacted the Planning Board, the CAC and the Highway Superintendent for their review and input. Hopefully, it will be put on the Planning Board's agenda in the future. We do want it to be formally adopted. We want feedback especially on timber harvesting and clear cutting. Nancy will talk to the people at the Relief meeting about these topics. *Marcy Appell* indicated that most of the tree care is interspersed in the Zoning Code. *Karen Cadorette* mentioned that the State Forestry Plan takes in many of our concerns. It was felt that adopting the FMP formally would give the Zoning Enforcer more clout. The Relief Meeting is June 27<sup>th</sup> but she will not be available then.

The other issue is the BROW. She gave out information to all. The Urban Forestry publication "Taking Root" has a lot of good information, written by Al Wagener, a very knowledgeable individual in the New Paltz area. The information was given to Christine Chale, attorney to the town of Red Hook.

**3. Grant Update:** The grant is completed including the tree inventory and all trees were planted so now the reimbursement must be sent electronically. She will get the assistance of Brenda Cagle. Karen Cadorette will give her the CD and/or electronic file.

**4. Town Budget for Trees:** The budget is due at the end of August which will be for \$1500.

*Eleanor Friery* had copy expenses of \$223 which included \$175 for books, \$34 for chicken wire, stickers, topsoil, etc. There were 525 posters from the K-5<sup>th</sup> grades. 13 classes were instructed on the Nature Trail. The Bio-Blitz worked fine at 20 minutes each for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grades with Nancy Guski's help also. Eleanor Friery explained the lesson. Everyone felt she does a tremendous amount of work and appreciates her yearly monetary donation.

*Eleanor Friery* has about 20 seedlings left over of three varieties. *Linda Keeling* agreed to take them and pot them up. Eleanor will drop them off. *Nancy Guski* noted that if potting soil is needed there is an account at Agway up to \$75.

Micki Strawinski presented an “Arbor Day Proclamation” from the County for Tree City.

**NEW BUSINESS:** There was some general discussion on spruce, pines and cedar browning.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** *Karen Cadorette* motioned to adjourn the meeting, *Eleanor Friery* seconded and all agreed.

*Chairman Guski* adjourned the meeting at 7:48 pm.

**Next Meeting:** No meeting in July. Tuesday, August 19, 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary

APPROVED Aug. 19, 2014