

Town of Red Hook

Tree Preservation Commission

Minutes: April 21, 2015

Attendance: Chairperson Nancy Guski, Karen Cadorette, Eleanor Friery, Doug Traudt and Linda Keeling, secretary

Absent: Brenda Cagle Town Council Liaison, Marcy Appell

Guest: Drs. George (Hop) and Cathy Michael and

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 7:01 pm. She handed out an agenda:

Minutes: There was a quorum.

There were some corrections to the minutes of March 17, 2015.

1. p. 2 *Commemorative Tree list.* Add “family” after Molinaro, add “Johanna Moore, Trezza family and Cecil Moore”

2. p. 2 *Arbor Day:* add “and a week after”

Motion: *Eleanor Friery* motioned to accept the March 17th minutes as amended, *Karen Cadorette* seconded, all agreed.

In Recognition of the Recent Passing of Marcy Appell on April 5, 2015:

Chairman Nancy Guski wanted the minutes to reflect the recent passing of a dedicated Tree Commission member and long time volunteer to the town, Marcy Appell. She wanted to express our condolences to the family. Marcy was a lovely woman, so dependable, reasonable and kind. She was a contributing member of the Commission. She had a wealth of historical knowledge about planning and various committees in town. She attended our Arbor Day events and even a pruning workshop on a bitterly cold day with her husband, Ken. We will all miss her infectious enthusiasm and guiding wisdom.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Tree City Celebration: *Cathy and Hop Michael* represented the Commission in Albany and collected the boxed materials, posters and other materials. They saw Brent Kovalchik from the Village and their

new member Francis (unknown last name). It was a great opportunity to network with others. *Hop Michael* didn't realize that Bard College was included as a tree campus.

Chairman Guski thanked *Eleanor Friery* for hosting the luncheon and poster contest. In attendance were *Cathy Michael*, *Linda Keeling* and *Nancy Guski*. It went smoothly and efficiently from noon – 2:15 pm. The winning 19 posters, out of over 500, will be displayed at town hall. Photos were taken of the winners on Friday, April 24th at 9 am. There were some great sayings on the posters: “If trees go extinct, so do we.” “Be calm, plant a tree.” “If you cut one down, plant two.”

Chairman Guski explained to the new members that we take pictures and try to get it in the newspaper. This goes toward our tree growth award. The most important part is we are encouraging young people to think about the importance of trees.

2. Arbor Day Activities for Sat. April 25, 2015, 10 – 2 pm: Linda Keeling will send out a press release regarding the free seedlings and other free items. Jeanne Duntz volunteered to do the luncheon along with Sue McCann and Nancy Roberts. Our former sign could not be located so *Chairman Guski* ordered a new sign from the local Sign Shop.

3. Forestry Management Plan (FMP): The town board passed it at their last meeting and the law change was approved which will allow for 7 members. *Doug Traudt* was formally accepted but *Cathy and Hop Michael* have not received their notification letter.

4. Tree Planting on Saturday: The tree arrival date was not certain until yesterday. Meg Crawford from the Rhinebeck Tree Commission called Schichtels and complained. So we are getting our trees on Thursday early afternoon at the Village Garage on Firehouse Lane. We will be the hub for Cobleskill, East Fishkill, Newburgh and Bard. There will be 40 trees altogether. *Doug Traudt* and *Hop Michael* offered to help with the delivery unloading. *Karen Cadorette* estimated it takes about 20 minutes to unload.

Cobleskill talked with *Chairman Guski* about our online Forestry Management Plan. She said it was a very user friendly document and encouraging so they would like to use our format.

Michele Decker volunteered to dig the holes for Jefferson Road (behind Conway's, off Rokeby Rd. and Rt. 9 South) and the Village's holes. The 9 tree specimens to be planted on Jefferson Rd are 3 crab apples, 2 prunus, 3 tilia linden and 1 yellow wood. Other details of the plans were specified, including dropping off the trees along with bags of mulch and tags.

On Saturday, *Eleanor Friery* will bring the tent and chairs. *Linda Keeling* will bring two tables. *Nancy Guski* will provide the raffle basket, posters and tree information. Dave Pearson, from the Village of Red Hook, will pick up the seedlings Friday. *Nancy Guski* will drop them off at Linda's house.

Before digging contact www.digsafelynewyork.com 800-962-7962 If a line is broken it is a \$10,000 fine.

5. Commemorative Tree Dedication: Chairman Guski contacted the family of Mary Cioffi and they will be in the area for Saturday, May 23rd at 11:00 am. We will try to have some refreshments at town hall afterwards. The plaque was ordered with “beloved volunteer friend”. Nancy ordered a red “baroness” crabapple for her red hair. It makes a red bloom. The tree and plaque will be paid out of the Commission's budget. The list of commemorative trees planted will be listed on the town's website.

6. The 23rd Annual ReLeaf Conference: Chairman Guski handed out a sheet of information. The conference is July 16-18, 2015 in Syracuse. We can send one person at a cost of \$200. If anyone is interested, contact her.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Thank You: Chairman Guski wanted to thank the following people for their varied contributions: *Karen Cadorette* for dropping off the cut maple branches, *Doug Traudt* for cutting three hundred tree cookies for the necklaces, *Eleanor Friery* for the classroom instruction and organizing the posters and wonderful lunch at her home and *Linda Keeling* for organizing and preparing the tree seedlings.

2. New Skills: *Chairman Guski* would like to tap into *Doug Traudt's* eagle knowledge and *Hop Michael's* tree trimming knowledge with the community. Nancy gave Hop some manual information on salt tolerant trees, etc. Trimming of the oaks on Rockefeller Lane can be done anytime. Hop volunteered to trim the snack bar tree at the Rec Park as it got damaged and the limbs need to be balanced according to *Karen Cadorette*.

There was some discussion about insect damage to various types of trees. Diversity is important and we try to be alerted to new information. *Doug Traudt* mentioned a good book by McGard called "Design with Nature".

Nancy Guski passed around the Connectivity manual which all thought was well done.

3. Montgomery Place: Nancy Guski talked with Ray Armater. They will need to replace some locust trees along the road and entranceway. They will use some of their money but would like to also tap into the Tree Commission's funds. So maybe in the fall, we might plant some locust trees along the road.

Adjournment:

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

Chairman Guski adjourned the meeting at 8:12 pm.

Next Meeting: We will meet on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary

APPROVED 5/19/15