

Town of Red Hook
Tree Preservation Commission
Minutes: February 16, 2016
APPROVED 3-22-16

Attendance: Chairman Cathy Michael, Karen Cadorette, Dave Grover, Doug Traudt, Hop Michael and Linda Keeling, secretary

Absent: Nancy Guski, Eleanor Friery and Sarah Imboden, 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.

Call to Order:

Chairperson Cathy Michael called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. She handed out an agenda.

Quote of the month: “If I knew I should die tomorrow, I would plant a tree today” by Stephen Girard

Minutes: There was a quorum.

Page 2: The correct spelling for Karen “EMMERICH”, One typo: p. 2 item #2, line 4, the “o” in joint was missing.

Motion: *Cathy Michael* motioned to accept the January 19, 2016 minutes as amended, *Karen Cadorette* seconded, all agreed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. 2016 Budget: *Chairman Cathy Michael* spoke with the town’s bookkeeper, Ann Conway. She confirmed we have \$1500 in our budget and \$1344 to cover the secretary’s payroll.

Eleanor Friery requested our March meeting be on the 4th Tuesday, the 22nd, so she can attend as there is an extra Tuesday in the month. The only one affected is the secretary who does minutes for the Ag Committee. She will ask them to move their March meeting date to the 29th.

2. Arbor Day Celebration, Apr. 30th: *Chairman Cathy Michael* said she was contacted by the library’s President Barry Ramage about doing something together. Plans are usually at town hall. It was thought they could focus on tree themed books at their library. Cathy is hoping to get more materials from forester George Profus but he has not answered her email. *Linda Keeling* suggested calling him. Ideas were sought for a display. Linda suggested displaying various wood pieces for identification and uses. *Doug Traudt* suggested bringing in his tree gear for a demonstration and explanation. Everyone thought that would be a good idea. Doug may also be able to find someone he knows about dendrochronology (study of tree rings). Considering we coordinate events with the Village, it was

suggested we have a liaison. Linda suggested Brenda Cagle or Brent Kavalchik as they have been involved for many years.

So we will have the usual celebration at town hall with planting a few trees, lunch with the Village at town hall, a tent display (Eleanor's tent and Linda's tables), and seedlings give-away (Linda's preparation) along with other items for free. Doug Traudt and Hop Michael will make tree cookies from branches by slicing and drilling a hole. Cathy Michael and others will decorate them. We have done 300 in the past. *Eleanor Friery* continues to handle all the preparation and work with the school and displaying the winning posters. We meet at her house for lunch and judge the posters. Cathy will make contact with Sue McCann, Jeanne Duntz, Brenda Cagle and Brent Kavalchik about reserving the town hall, ordering food and organizing the event's meal.

3. Seedling Order: *Linda Keeling* confirmed she handed the order to Ann Conway before the town board meeting. She will check again to make sure everything went through alright. The order was for 80 seedlings at \$122. We have \$154 in donation money so that expense is covered. We generally receive donations from the public. *Nancy Guski* has always done the raffle basket as her donation and that brings in about \$35. The public looks forward to the celebration and usually have questions about planting and care answered.

4. Archives: *Chairman Cathy Michael* noted no additional progress has been made. She and *Linda Keeling*, who is very familiar with archival documents, will contact former chairman *Nancy Guski*. This will be an opportunity to gather items to give away to the public for Arbor Day.

5. Forestry Management Plan: *Eleanore Friery* reviewed the FMP and made a suggestion regarding the history and tree growth award from 2011 to the present and Arbor Day Celebration dates. *Chairman Cathy Michael* was wondering how the group wanted to handle the updates to the document. *Linda Keeling* stressed that the original 2011 document should remain historically intact. A new revised document should be created with the modifications. *Dave Grover* thought we should contact Dick Wambach to see if we can get the CD to expedite the changes. Cathy thought there were about 25 documents produced in the past. Linda thought F&M Printing might have been involved, too. The changes involve updating the history timeline and persons now on the Commission. The inventory lines cutting off information could be improved.

6. Tree Planting Sites for 2016: We are still in need of the former planting spaces and tree types so new members know where these town owned trees are located so we can trim and inspect them. *Cathy and Hop Michael* did a preliminary road visit behind Conway's on Rt. 9, an old established development. They were impressed with the tree in the triangle. *Linda Keeling* noted that the woman who lives near it proudly watered it when it was planted. They didn't feel this area could use any more trees but noted the old blue spruce trees are in bad shape and should be considered for replacement by the owners. Hop Michael suggested two trees for the Moore property but Karen Cadorette thought they had gotten two trees last year. Linda suggested planting one at St. Margaret's Home as a lot on the south side by the road were removed. She thought moving it back toward the Hannaford property line might work out. Karen thought someplace on Rt. 199 east, maybe at the car wash. The Michaels will look around for potential planting sites then an order can be put into Schichtel's Nursery <http://www.schichtels.com>

7. Trees of the Hudson Valley Calendar: This calendar was produced by DEC. Many of the photos were done by George Profus or a professional. The photos submitted by Nancy Guski and Cathy Michael were disappointingly not used as DEC had received many photos. We received two calendars. *Cathy Michael* took one and *Karen Cadorette* took the other. Everyone looked at the photos and agreed it was a beautiful calendar.

8. Commemorative Trees: The Gordy Merghendahl tree at the Rec Park needs replacement.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Sarah Imboden: Chairman Cathy Michael welcomed Sarah as our new town liaison. She could not attend as she is attending a government training course.

2. Tree City Awards Luncheon Event March 30th: The following volunteered to attend the free luncheon celebration at the Hilton in Albany: *Cathy and Hop Michael, Linda Keeling and Dave Grover*. Other members couldn't attend due to work commitments.

Adjournment:

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

Chairman Cathy Michael adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Next Meeting: We will meet on **Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 7:00 pm.**

Note: *This is a change from our regular meeting day in order for Eleanor Friery to attend. There is an extra Tuesday in March. Linda Keeling will have to switch the Ag and Open Space Committee meeting to the following week in order to accommodate the switch as she does their minutes, too.*

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary

Approved 3-22-16