

Town of Red Hook

Tree Preservation Commission

Minutes: May 17, 2016

Approved July 19, 2016

Attendance: Chairman Cathy Michael, Eleanor Friery, Dave Grover, Doug Traudt, Hop Michael, and Linda Keeling, secretary

Absent: Karen Cadorette, Cody Hay and Town Council Liaison Sarah Imboden and Nancy Guski, ex-officio

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 7:00 pm. She handed out an agenda.

Quote of the month: “He that plants trees loves others beside himself” (Thomas Fuller, English churchman and historian, circa 1600’s)

Minutes: There was a quorum. Minor corrections as follows:

p. 2 eliminated third paragraph. Changed “connected” to “contacted” and “giving” to “given”

p. 3 Ph 1: remove the “d” on “approved”, add in “it” and change the spelling of the tree to “Tatarian”

Motion: *Hop Michael* motioned to accept the April 19, 2016 minutes with the corrections as amended, *Dave Grover* seconded, all agreed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Arbor Day Celebration, Follow-Up: The luncheon costs were donated by Hop and Cathy Michael as there was a lot of left-over food. Everyone thanked them.

2. New Tree City Flag and other Memorabilia: A new flag was installed at the town hall flag pole. The paperweight and medallion were delivered to Supervisor Robert McKeon. One new metal sign was delivered to town hall to be installed in Upper Red Hook. After receiving a letter, the highway installed the new sign in Upper Red Hook. The second new sign was delivered to town hall for pick-up and return to DEC. Chairman Cathy Michael contacted DEC forester George Profous regarding obtaining two more 10 year Tree City stickers for the metal entrance signs.

3. Upper Red Hook Rt. 9 Turn-off Project: Hop Michael contacted Central Hudson and they dropped the stump and the town highway will clean it up. He wrote thank you note to Superintendent of Highways Theresa Burke. Hop continues to work on the planting plan for this area and will present it to the town board for their edification and approval as it will require an expenditure of money from our budget.

Hop described the proposed plan and its constraints regarding depth of planting median, electrical wires and wetness. The northern section is wet so he proposed shadblow (the same as shadbush and serviceberry). Fringe trees are salt tolerant so they are a good choice. He used the guide pamphlet supplied by Central Hudson and included 2 trees: a winter king hawthorn (*Crataegus viridis*) or Tatarian maple and a grouping of three shadbush, winterberry (male) and red ozier on the lower land. He was given approval to contact Central Hudson. Al Trezza was contacted and he dug out the stump. Before digging call ahead and use the dig sticks and tree labels.

4. \$100 Donation Check: Chairman Cathy Michael delivered Lillian Lown's check to the town's bookkeeper, Anne Conway.

5. Clean-Up Day Follow-up: The Clean-up Day (Sunday April 24th) participants: *Linda Keeling* and *Cathy Michael* on Pitcher Lane and *Hop Michael* on Rt. 9 North was very successful for removing trash along the proposed area to be enhanced. *Linda Keeling* turned in cans for \$2.15 which will go towards labels for the potted plants. Linda reminded everyone that the Arbor Day activities brought in \$226.

6. One Position Fulfilled: *Cody Hay* has been approved.

7. Nature Trail Update: *Eleanor Friery*, *Cathy Michael* and *Nancy Guski* were involved again with 13 classes of 1st and 3rd graders who planted seedlings and received a tree cookie necklace. In June, Eleanor and Nancy will do the BioBlitz which is comprised of 20 minute lessons on tree identification, measuring the trees to determine their age. The school has been very cooperative and one of the custodians will weedwack around the planted trees wire cages. Left-over seedlings were given to *Linda Keeling* for potting up. Everyone thanked Eleanor for her continued hard work.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Fall Planting: Trees will be ordered for the fall planting. Those to be planted are:

- a. Memorial tree replacement for *Gordie Mergendahl* at the Rec Park
- b. Memorial tree for *Betty Mae Van Parys*
- c. "In honor of" tree for *Nancy Guski*
- d. Upper Red Hook planting site

Additionally pruning and tree assessments will take place.

2. June Meeting Canceled: Due to a lack of immediate business and the busy season, the group agreed to skip June and meet at our regular July meeting on the 19th.

Adjournment:

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

Chairman Cathy Michael adjourned the meeting at 7:52 pm.

Next Meeting: We will meet on **Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 7:00 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary