

Town of Red Hook
Tree Preservation Commission

Minutes: July 19, 2016

Approved 8/17/16

Attendance: Chairman Cathy Michael, Eleanor Friery, Karen Cadorette, Dave Grover, Hop Michael, and Linda Keeling, secretary

Absent: Doug Traudt, 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: There was no meeting in June.

Chairperson Cathy Michael called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm. She handed out an agenda.

Quote of the month: Trees are the best monuments that a man can erect to his own memory. They speak his praises without flattery, and they are blessings to children yet unborn." By Lord Orrery, 1749

Minutes: There was a quorum. Minor corrections to the May 17th minutes as follows:

1. Page 1, #2, Line 2: change "was" to "were".
2. Page 2, Line 3: Period after serviceberry. Eliminate "three", capitalize "Fringe", add after tolerant "so they are a good choice. Capitalize Crataegus, change "and" to "or". Line 6 remove "take down a" insert "dug out the"
3. Page 2, #7, Line 4: change "its" to "their" and "teachers" to "custodian".

Motion: *Hop Michael* motioned to accept the May 17, 2016 minutes with the corrections as amended, *Karen Cadorette* seconded, all agreed.

Note: *Linda Keeling* reminded the *Chairman Michael* that *Cody Hay* should be encouraged to attend the next meeting if possible.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Tree City: *Chairman Cathy Michael* received 2 more "10 Year" Tree City stickers for a total of 4 stickers posted on the entrance signs on the four roadways. The unneeded metal signs will be picked up by Sally Kellogg.

2. Upper Red Hook Planting: *George (Hop) Michael, Cathy Michael and Linda Keeling* attended the town board meeting. Hop presented the specific plans for the tree and shrub plantings. He has contacted the DOT, Superintendent of Highways Theresa Burke and Central Hudson. He made his presentation to the Town Board. The application to DOT was filled out and the town passed a resolution. The town has

a liability bond with DOT on file. The permits were sent to Chuck Walters. A short Environmental Assessment will be done along with a public hearing. Hop will meet with Theresa Burke regarding the 25 ft. right-of-way from the center. Central Hudson has a City level landscaper review the proposal. There was some concern about digging the holes for the trees and shrubs.

3. Memorial Tree Update: *Hop Michael* called Hank Van Parys about a tree for Betty Mae. He will study the suggestion of a Fringe tree to be planted at the town hall then get back to Hop. Hank was very pleased with the thoughtful suggestion for the Memorial tree.

4. Honorary Tree Update: *Chairman Michael* will contact *Nancy Guski* to determine what she would like planted at the town hall. We also would like to get more information about the exact locations of trees planted in the past.

5. Archives: There is no new update. *Cathy Michael* and *Linda Keeling* will arrange a future date to cull and save filed materials.

6. Pruning Update: *Hop Michael* reported that he and *Dave Grover* will trim the maples at the Rec Park, Thursday at 9 am.

7. BioBlitz at Mill Rd. Elementary School: This has become an annual event. *Eleanor Friery* reported that she and *Nancy Guski* worked with 12 groups of 3rd graders with 20 minute lessons. June 9 and 10th it rained so it was done the following week.

They learn about the differences between conifers (cone bearing: long needles or scale) and deciduous leaves (broad leaf: simple or compound like fruit and walnut trees have flowers) (See video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecf0b99vPDM> ; Station 4, 2013: Start at 10:31 – 13:38) A mystery bag of leaves are given to the children for them to identify. *Eleanor* received a thank you note from teachers participating. Arbor Day posters were returned to the participants with a thank you card for each student.

8. Rockefeller Lane Oaks: *Hop Michael* spoke with *Norman Greig* about the trees planted needing pruning along Rockefeller Lane to eventually develop a canopy. He agreed to it. Hop described the multi-step means of assessing the tree before trimming: Remove dead branches, establish the lowest permanent branch, work your way up to progress, stand back to assess your work efforts to maintain a pleasant symmetry for future tree growth.

9. September Tree Order: *Schichtel's* order for September needs to go out soon. There are some limitations on the number of trees available. *Chairman Cathy Michael* will email the list to the members when she gets it from *Jim Kistler*.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Hardscrabble Day (Sept. 17th): *Linda Keeling* noted that if we are to participate in the event we need to contact *Todd Baright* so we can use the Village Old Telephone building site. We will have an informational table and some potted trees for donations as usual.

2. Town Hall Tree Planting: *Chairman Michael* was contacted about selecting trees for the new parking lot. After adjourning, the group went outside to assess the planting space where the picnic table is located. It was decided that one but no more than two trees would be appropriate for the area and still make maintenance easy for the town's highway department. *Theresa Burke* had related to the Chairman

that low bushes will go in the median that is now being filled in with soil. *Linda Keeling* noted that Theresa's annual plantings and landscaping has improved the parking area's site design.

Adjournment:

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

Chairman Cathy Michael adjourned the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Next Meeting: We will meet on **Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at 7:00 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary