

DRAFT

Town of Red Hook

Tree Preservation Commission

Minutes: April 19, 2017

Attendance: Cathy Michael, Doug Traudt, Dave Grover, Eleanor Friery, Karen Cadorette, Cody Hay and Linda Keeling, secretary

Absent: George (Hop) Michael and Town Council Liaison Sarah Imboden

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: *Chairman Cathy Michael* called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. She handed out an agenda.

Quote of the month: **“Other holidays repose on the past. Arbor Day proposes the future.”**

Minutes: There was a quorum (6/7). There was a minor correction to the minutes with the spelling of Cody’s first name.

Motion: *Eleanor Friery* motioned to accept the March 2017 minutes with the correction, *Dave Grover* seconded, all agreed.

Special Request: *Eleanor Friery* asked *Cathy Michael* to come to Mill Rd. School to take picture of the winning students on Friday, April 29th at 9:00 am. She agreed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Tree City Luncheon Celebration, Albany, NY: The following attended the Tree City Luncheon meeting in Albany on 5/30/17 from 8 am – 3 pm.: Hop Michael (driver), Cathy Michael, Linda Keeling, Dave Grover and Juliana Pearson from Village Green. *Dave Grover* was impressed about the presentations. Discussion focused on oak wilt. The leaves fall off quickly then it is dead. Doug Traudt said he notices the leaf discoloration around July. They need to be taken down due to the roots spreading the disease. Open wounds during the spring and summer attract the insects within 10 minutes. Wound paint should be applied. The best time to prune oaks is in the winter when insects are not present.

Cathy Michael said the event is always invigorating. She put in a request to DEC District 3 Forester George Profus for posters and book marks. They will be mailed or delivered by George. *Dave Grover* said he heard at the luncheon they were not printed yet. We gathered up materials at the luncheon for distribution at our event. *Linda Keeling* noted the new smaller poster size is much better for displaying. *Eleanor Friery* noted in past years she put them in the teacher’s lunch room and the teachers displayed them in their classrooms. All agreed they are beautiful posters.

Linda Keeling said she made two bulletin boards of tree information and used the small poster in the design. She will set it up in town hall after the rain stops.

2. Spring Planting: Trees were delivered several days ahead of schedule. The driver never called. They were received by Village Green member, Kathy Pearson, 6 each.

After speaking with Theresa Burke, Superintendent of Highways and Grounds, the town highway department dug their own hole. *Dave Grover* and *Hop Michael* planted and mulched the katsura tree for Nancy Guski's dedication ceremony.

Michele Decker will dig 4 holes on April 19th for Gordy Merghendahl's and Triebel's Garage trees.

Hop Michael bought five bags of mulch to be used on the Arbor Day Celebration trees, Sat. April 29th.

The oak for Firehouse Lane had gotten cancelled.

3. Arbor Day Celebration, Sat. April 29th: The Triebel Centennial Commemorative plaque order is complete. It took less than a week to get the plaque. The tree installation will be on Friday, April 28th at 11 am. *Hop Michael* and *Dave Grover* will make the arrangements with Dave Triebel. *Linda Keeling* will handle the publicity Press Release to include: The Daily Freeman, Poughkeepsie Journal, Register Star, Northern Dutchess News and Kim Gomez of the Red Hook Chamber. Pictures will be taken by members and sent to the respective offices with after-the-event information.

Supervisor Robert McKeon has agreed to read the Tree City Proclamation during the Saturday celebration at town hall.

Eleanor Friery reported on the progress with the Mill Rd. School posters. She will send out a reminder letter about tick observation. She needs to purchase stakes for the seedlings, yarn, chicken wire, stakes with the teacher's name, bottled water (4 gallons) and top soil. Each class gets one tree if they read several tree books. The witch hazel planted years ago has grown large and the school maintenance person trimmed it and it looks much better. Eleanor thanked him.

Several members of the Commission will meet at Eleanor's house for a luncheon and poster judging on April 25th. *Doug Traudt* is working on cutting the tree slice medallions and will have tree sample logs at the event. His daughter worked the drill press for the holes. They have completed 95 medallions so far.

Cody Hay will be at the table for the start of his 10:00 am presentation to the public.

The Red Hook Library will be joining us with one to two people with a hand on activity.

Linda Keeling will separate and label the 100 seedlings for the give-away display.

Nancy Guski put together a raffle basket worth about \$75. *Cathy Michael* had won the basket at the Tree City luncheon so she turned over most of the winnings, except the coffee, to Nancy to fill out. She will be coming to Eleanor's luncheon. The basket contained: a water bottle, tree tee shirt, \$25 gift certificate to Mac's Agway, garden tools, sachet, rain stick, etc.

Dave Grover has been working on the feely boxes and brought an example. He will work with *Cathy Michael* to fit a hand-hiding covering on each of the four. We will have coloring pages for the kids to take home.

Kathy Pearson of the Village Green has volunteered to take care of the desserts and make a vegetarian soup for the Luncheon on Saturday. *Cathy Michael* will go to Griff's Deli for the luncheon order.

Eleanor Friery had a question about Tivoli persons as they are part of the town. *Cathy Michael* thought they have their own newly started tree committee. They are not a tree city. Eleanor might ask some Tivoli residents if they want to volunteer with us. They are teachers from Mill Rd. who would feel

comfortable in doing what Eleanor has been doing for years. She is looking for a future replacement as we continue to age out.

4. Pruning: *Dave Grover* and *Hop Michael* continue to prune trees at the north end of the Rec Park.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Upper Red Hook Planted Site: *Cathy Michael* reported all the trees are doing well so far. The number of bulbs (50 blooms out of 200) should be increased each year to make a bigger display. The late snow might have affected their growth.

B. Nancy Guski Plaque: The group decided what the plaque should say. *Cathy Michael* feels the order will be ready for the day. The group decided on: In Honor of Nancy Guski, Tree Commission Chairperson, 2007-2015.

Special Note: Linda gave out two bags of purple potatoes to Cathy and Cody to try for planting.

There were comments about the tree removals to make way for the new sidewalk from town hall to the Holy Cow area. This is a planting opportunity.

Linda Keeling is still working on the questions for the last page of the brochure.

Adjournment:

Motion: *Dave Grover* motioned to adjourn the meeting, *Eleanor Friery* seconded and all agreed. The meeting ended at 7:50 pm.

Next Meeting: The next regularly scheduled meeting is **May 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm** at the town hall. It is open to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary