

Town of Red Hook
Tree Preservation Commission
Minutes: December 5, 2017
Approved 1-23-18

Attendance: Cathy Michael, George (Hop) Michael, Doug Traudt, Eleanor Friery, Dave Grover, Karen Cadorette, Codie Hay and Linda Keeling, secretary (100%)

Absent: Town Council Liaison Sarah Imboden

Guest: None

Location: Red Hook Town Hall

Purpose: The regular monthly meeting of the Commission is held on the third Tuesday of every month at the Town Hall.

Call to Order: Due to the closeness to the Thanksgiving holiday, the date was moved to the first Tuesday in December. A quorum was present (7 out of 7). *Chairman Cathy Michael* called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. She handed out an agenda.

Quote of the month: **“Between every two pine trees there is a door leading to a new way of life” by John Muir**

Minutes: The following minor corrections were noted:

Page 1: Item 1, Line 3: add after ft. “from the center of the road”; capitalize Quercus and Ailanthus
Page 2: Line 3: change it to “there”

Motion: *Dave Grover* motioned to accept the October 2017 minutes as amended, *Hop Michael* seconded, all agreed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Rotary Update: *Chairman Cathy Michael* spoke with Barry Ramadge regarding the planting of trees with Rotarian help. It will be sometime in the future after he can make a presentation to Rotary members.

2. New Signs: Two signs were bought to advertise newly planted trees. They are located at the Rec Park and Pitcher Lane.

3. Purchases: The signs were purchased locally at the Dutchess Sign Shoppe. Michelle Decker, who used her equipment to dig the holes on Pitcher Lane, received a \$25 gift card to a local bake shop, Annabelle’s. Michelle sent a thank you card to Cathy. *David Grover* again noted how easy it was for him and *Linda Keeling* to plant the 4 trees on Pitcher Lane with such precise hole-digging work and beautiful rock less soil. (The actual planting took 2 hours or 30 minutes per hole.) *Hop Michael* will stake three trees at a later time.

4. Herbicide Use by DOT: *Hop Michael* reported there was no update.

5. Pitcher Lane Update: *Hop Michael* took out his 4 ft. long visual road board. He explained there are several clumps of junk trees that need to be removed. Ken Migliorelli has volunteered to assist on the north side and smoothing out the area on the south side. There is one maple that can be worked around. There's a red oak with a competing central leader. A small work crew will meet with *Hop Michael* on Sat., Dec. 16th at 9 am with assistance from *Codie Hay* and *Doug Traudt* (possibly using his truck).

6. 2018 Budget: Chairman Cathy Michael informed the group that our budget submission of \$2000 was accepted with an additional \$500 included for a total of \$2500. This still leaves the group with the donation money of around \$1300. Everyone was very excited knowing the extra funds will allow us to plant more trees. Our focus will be on Pitcher Lane which can take a lot of trees.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Pitcher Lane, tree removals scheduled: *Hop Michael* said he will stake the trees to be removed and call 811 Dig Safe before the work begins. He'll ride his tractor to the area and do some mowing to keep it trimmed and prevent seedlings from sprouting.

2. Stump removal with Beaver Stump Grinding: *Codie Hay* said he was given permission from his employer, Craig of Craig Kurkela Tree Company, to use the tree stump grinder so it will not be necessary to expend money.

3. Oaks on Rockefeller Lane: *Dave Grover* asked about trimming the oaks on Rockefeller Lane. *Hop Michael* explained Norman Greig and Theresa Burke wanted the limbs to remain low but Ken Migliorelli who works the land indicated he could keep the area cleaner of volunteer weed trees if they were limbed up. We all felt this is what we wanted to happen to these trees as they are not intended to be a snow break but rather an aesthetic enhancement to the scenic road.

4. Tree Planting at Rec Park: *Dave Grover* asked if a tree will be planted at the Rec Park. The answer was yes, in the spring.

5. Memorial Tree for Betty Mae Van Parys, former Planning Board Secretary: *Chairman Cathy Michael* will purchase a memorial sign and hopefully have one of the newly planted town hall front yard trees designated in her memory.

6. Tree City Application: *Chairman Cathy Michael* said she submitted the application with about 10 pictures. It was a much easier process to do in her second year as chairman.

7. Town Sidewalk Grant Project: *Chairman Cathy Michael* said she received notification about Todd Baright's concern about the ginkgo trees being too close to his Hardscrabble Mall sign. *Karen Cadorette* explained that she and Brenda Cagle were very careful in selecting the spot for the trees but also noted there was a space allotment consideration. She felt they did the best job for the conditions but the Commission members will monitor these trees in the spring.

8. Bulbs for Rt. 9 North Planting Triangle: Chairman Cathy Michael said she could not get over to Adams to purchase the sale bulbs but rather bought bone meal and Milorganite fertilizers. She and Hop applied it to the bulbs and trees

9. Red Church: John Kuhn asked Hop about trimming the crabapple trees at the Red Church. This church property is now owned by the town so *Hop Michael* and David Grover wants to trim crabapple trees.

Adjournment:

Motion: *Hop Michael* motioned to adjourn the meeting, *Karen Cadorette* seconded and all agreed. The meeting ended at 7:50 pm.

Next Meeting: The next regularly scheduled meeting is **Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 7:00 pm** at the town hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary