

Town of Red Hook

Tree Preservation Commission

Minutes: March 26, 2018 (Monday)

APPROVED April 17, 2018

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

Absent: Dave Grover (meeting conflict) and Town Council Liaison Sarah Imboden

Guest: None

Location: Red Hook Town Hall

Purpose: This was a change from the regular monthly meeting which is normally held on the third Tuesday of every month at the Town Hall.

Call to Order: A quorum was present (6 out of 7). *Chairman Cathy Michael* called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. The Chairman handed out an agenda.

Quote of the month: **“What we are doing to the forests of the world is but a mirror reflection of what we are doing to ourselves and to one another” by Mahatma Gandhi**

Minutes: The following minor corrections were noted:

1. Page 1, #1, L 6: Eliminate “The burning bush can grow tall.”
2. Page 2, #2, L 3: Change “was” to “will be”
3. Page 2, #4: Correct name spelling to “Conway”

Motion: *Karen Cadorette* motioned to accept the February 20, 2018 minutes as amended, *Hop Michael* seconded, all agreed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Tree City Luncheon, Albany, Thursday, March 29th: A few members who volunteered to go at the last meeting had to decline due to work schedules. Three members (*Cathy, Hop and Linda*) will represent the Tree Commission to receive the group’s annual Tree City box containing a hat, pins, year 12 signage, etc. It is uncertain if anyone from the Village Green will be attending.

2. Outreach, Old Dutch Village Garden Club: Due to snow, *Linda Keeling’s* presentation was rescheduled for Thursday, April 12th at their 65th Anniversary Luncheon at the Red Hook Golf Club. *Chairman Cathy Michael and Linda Keeling* will do the 15 minute presentation. Hopefully the Garden Club will make a donation for the purchase of trees like the Rotary did.

3. Tree Order: *Chairman Cathy Michael* ordered the 13 trees: 5 Quercus heritage (oak), 4 Sugar maples and 4 Red Maples. The Rotary will be paying for 5 trees. The Chairman received an email from Superintendent of Highways, Theresa Burke, informing her that the Katsura tree on the north side of the back portion of the town hall is budding. Everyone was very excited. This is a memorial tree to our past

chairman, Nancy Guski. Theresa's installation of the underground watering system really helped to ensure its survival.

4. Arbor Day: Saturday, April 28th: The 13 trees will be planted at that time. Michele Decker of Decker Construction will be contacted about digging the holes. She has been volunteering her services for many years which the Commission truly appreciates. Chairman Cathy Michael contacted the Red Hook Library and they will have an outdoor table at our event in front of the town hall.

Poster Contest: *Eleanor Friery* updated everyone on the educational outreach program progress with Mill Rd. Elementary School. The poster contest information went out to the school. The deadline is Friday, April 20th. Again, Eleanor will host a luncheon at her house, Tuesday, April 24th at noon, for members to judge the posters (*Codie Hay, Doug and Ryan Traudt, Cathy and Hop Michael, Karen Cadorette and Linda Keeling*). Book prizes will be awarded to the children on Friday, April 27th and photos will be taken. Eleanor sent the order in, signed by the principal, for the free seedlings for schools from the Saratoga Nursery. She should receive them around the 20th of next month. The books ordered are in her home.

Nature Trail: Eleanor noted much tree damage was done to the trail during the March 3rd blizzard. Tree debris was moved by school staff by machine and caused damage to the caged seedlings. She is having eye surgery on April 4th so she won't be able to dig. The final \$800 was spent from the Botstein fund. Eleanor asked for a volunteer work party to chain saw and remove the tree debris. Eleanor called Nancy Guski to volunteer to help with the lessons. Volunteers *Hop Michael, Codie Hay and Doug Traudt* scheduled the chain saw work party for Sat. April 21st at 9:00 am.

Chairman Cathy Michael reported Supervisor McKeon has agreed to read the Proclamation at our event.

Eleanor Friery will bring her tent, *Linda Keeling* will bring her 3 tables, and *Codie Hay* will demonstrate his climbing gear. We hope to pick up posters and other materials at the Albany luncheon to display during the day while distributing 100 free tree seedlings. *Linda Keeling* will go to Millbrook to pick up the 100 seedlings on Friday April 20th then prepare them for distribution on the 28th.

Chairman Cathy Michael will contact Brent Kavalchik of Village Green to find out whose turn it is to pay for the luncheon food for the volunteers. Cathy will also contact Town Clerk Sue McCann to reserve the town hall and see if she will be helping with the food and drink tables as she has in the past. Cathy will order from Griff's again. *Linda Keeling* reminded everyone that Griff's donated the cost last year.

Doug Traudt will cut, sand and drill holes for about 200 tree cookie necklaces.

5. Forestry Management Plan (FMP): *Linda Keeling* brought up the Forestry Management Plan because we are supposed to review it yearly and add information to it as to what was planted. *Chairman Cathy Michael* said she has the list of what we have planted. She asked if it was online. Linda responded it was but she has not checked recently. We will wait until the town's website gets migrated to the new company's website before releasing a revised booklet.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Pitcher Lane: *Hop Michael* gave his report. The Ailanthus was cut up and Ken Migliorelli burned the pile before the March 15th date established by NYSDEC. The cut up pieces of Ailanthus were piled up along the roadside and someone picked it up so it is gone. The stumps are 4 ft. high. He hopes to have his volunteer crew dig them out on Saturday. He will contact DigSafe for a new permit. There is a very large damaged maple tree that needs to be cut down. He will contact the Highway Department for their help. Hop will try to get his work group together for Sat. April 14th.

2. **Memorial Tree Plaque:** The Supervisor was asked if one of the planted trees in front of the town hall could be dedicated to former Planning Board secretary Betty Mae Van Parys. It was agreed that a plaque could be placed in her honor.

3. **Tree City Highway Sign Damaged:** *Karen Cadorette* noted that our Tree City sign on East 199 near the Golf Course was down and perhaps hit by a snow plow or car. *Hop Michael* will contact the highway department to see if the pole can be re-erected or needs to be replaced.

Adjournment: 7:40 pm

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

Next Meeting: The next scheduled meeting is confirmed for **Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm** at the town hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary