

Town of Red Hook
Tree Preservation Commission
Minutes for June 18, 2019
APPROVED 7/16/19

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

Absent: Karen Cadorette and Town Council Liaison Sarah Imboden

Guest: None

Location: Red Hook Town Hall

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

Call to Order: There was a quorum (6 out of 7). *Chairman Cathy Michael* called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. The Chairman handed out an agenda.

Quote of the month: **“A man doesn’t plant a tree for himself. He plants it for posterity.”**

Minutes: Corrections / Additions

1. P. 1, #2, L 2: Remove “and Dave Grover”
2. P. 2, #2 L 3: Change “tall” to “Town”
3. P. 2, #2 L 5: Change “sight” to “site”
4. P. 2, #2 L 6: Change “from” to “between”

Motion: *Codie Hay* motioned to accept the minutes from May as corrected, *Eleanor Friery* seconded, all agreed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. London Plane Tree on Pitcher Lane: *Hop Michael* reported the tree is dead as a result of frost cracking. The wholesaler will not replace it. The Tree Commission will replace it in the fall. This is our first and only dead tree over the many years of planting.

2. Rhinebeck Bank / Town Building project: *Hop Michael* reported the bank is very receptive to the Tree Commission planting three trees along the median between the buildings. Theresa Burke has been contacted and consulted about the proposal. Some possibilities were: Red bud (*Linda Keeling* said these were recommended in the past for street trees but they break during high winds.), Shadblow (early April bloom, 20 ft. x 20 ft., Kousa dogwood, Winter King Hawthorn (white flowers, fruit), cherries (purple, May bloom), Cleveland pear (overplanted), Purple Robe Black Locust, Spicebush (invasive), Serviceberry (30 ft.). We will be ordering in August based on availability.

3. Old Dutch Village Garden Club (ODVGC): *Chairman Cathy Michael* reported the Garden Club had given a donation of \$200 for a tree and plaque. This fall a *Prunus accolade* “Accolade cherry” (22 ft. x 22 ft.) will be planted at the corner of St. John’s Church, behind the wall.

4. Planting at Rec Park (sign): The sign has lots of tall weeds covering the spirea that we planted. Weeding is not our responsibility. John Kuhn will be contacted about this maintenance problem.

5. “Floppy” Trees on Pitcher Lane, What to Do? There are two trees in particular at the west end, north side of Pitcher Lane. The tops are heavy, leaning towards the road with some stem cracking on a small diameter tree. *Codie Hay* will inspect the trees. *Codie* volunteered to trim the tops as a means of correcting the lean. If they die, they will be replaced in the fall.

Hop Michael reported the treated *Ailanthus* stumps have not shown any new growth. There are about 2 spots open on the south side for trees and 1-2 trees where the *Ailanthus* was located.

6. Tree Commission’s Budget: The Bookkeeper, Ann Conway, was contacted by *Chairman Cathy Michael*. Our budget for 2019 is \$2500; \$1725 was spent with \$775 remaining. Donations remaining are \$1044. *Eleanor Friery* is submitting \$121.79 for the additional books, wooden stakes, top soil and plastic cups. So we have about \$1598 for trees in the fall, along with mulch and fertilizer. *Cathy* will ask *Ann* for an itemized accounting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Fall Tree Order: 1 Garden Club, 2 Pitcher Lane + 1 replacement, 3 bank median equals seven at a cost of about \$1000. The rest of the budget will go to the \$300 expenditures for the children’s outreach program and bags of mulch.

2. Eleanor Friery Report: There were about 400 children participants for the poster contest. The posters were displayed at town hall for two weeks. Classes taught with the help of *Nancy Guski* were: 7 first graders, 5 third graders, two classes were canceled due to the rainy weather. First graders planted seedlings. The third graders had the walk about decomposition. Tree cookies were distributed to all children. Some seedlings were left over. Due to dual orders, the garden teacher, *Alexie Bolton*, a paid employee, agreed to order the seedlings and plant them.

3. Nancy Guski’s Tree at Town Hall: *Linda Keeling* had concerns about the top growth which looked dead late at night. The Michaels checked it out and indicated it is fine. New growth is rosy pink.

4. Newburgh Annual ReLeaf Conference, July 18th: *Linda Keeling* asked if we are planning on attending. No commitments were made.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

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

Next Meeting: The next scheduled meeting is suggested for **Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm** at the town hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, TC Secretary