

DRAFT

Town of Red Hook

Tree Preservation Commission

Minutes for 10-19-2021

1. Attendance: 6/7 quorum

Chairman Cathy Michael, George (Hop) Michael, Codie Hay, Eleanor Friery, Karen Cadorette, Doug Traudt, and Secretary Linda Keeling.

Absent: Dave Grover and Jacob Testa, town board liaison

2. Location: Town Hall, in person

3. Purpose: Regular monthly meeting, the third Tuesday, each month.

4. Call to Order: *Chairman Cathy Michael* opened the meeting at 7:02 pm. **Quote of the Month:** *“The wonder is that we can see these trees and not wonder more.”* by Ralph Waldo Emerson

6. Minutes from 9-21-21. Corrections were submitted by Cathy Michael.

A. p. 2: 6 B, L2: change “gingko” to “maple”

B. p. 2: 6 C, Ph.2, L3: change “was” to “are”

C. p. 2: 6 D: after Adams and “and Augustine”. Change “replacing” to “installing”. Add “Augustine seems to be more likely to get one.” Ph.2: eliminate “for the school auditorium area” to “at the Rec Park.” Ph. 3: eliminate “get a call back” to “call”. Eliminate “and juniper varieties”, add “for the other Tree Commission projects”.

E. p. 2: 6 E: eliminate “is waiting to hear from” to “will contact”.

F. p. 3: 6 I: L2: change the spelling of “pales” to “pails”. Insert after pounds, L4, “when filled with water”.

G. p. 3: 7 A: L 2: insert after farmhouse. Liza Migliorelli, L 4: eliminate “brother” change to “family member” L 5: change “good soil” to “the soil is good”.

Eleanor Friery motioned to accept the corrections and *Karen Cadorette* seconded.

Chairman Cathy Michael submitted a monthly report to the town board:

1. *Six trees have been ordered for Rec Park West. Delivery is expected in late October or early November.*

2. *Plans are in the work to remove 2 diseased maples at Mill Road School. One tree will be replaced. An Acer ginnala ‘Ruby Slippers’ has been ordered.*

3. *The decision was made to once again order bare root trees from Schichtel’s wholesale nursery. In an effort to minimize the huge delivery costs. The Town Commission and the Village Green have combined their orders.*

4. *The Town Tree Inventory is due for updating. It has been ten years since the original inventory was completed. This will be done in the spring of 2022, after leaf-out.*

5. *The Commission discussed purchasing a simple tree watering system. Commission members have been using the back-breaking system of filling, transporting and dumping five gallon buckets on newly planted trees. (For the first year or two, the trees must be watered very regularly.)*

6. *A potential new planting site in Upper Red Hook will be assessed, along Budd’s Corners Road, across from the old Baxter Farm. Commission members have scheduled a meeting with the property owner for next week.*

Old Business

1. **Mill Road Elementary School Update:** Perry Sheldon was contacted regarding the tree stumps, the information was left with the assistant. Jeff Popp, interim, is excited about doing the work. *Codie Hay* volunteered to work in the evenings this week or Saturday morning for a couple of hours. There are two trees. It should take a couple of hours. *Hop Michael* and *Doug Grover* will help.

2. **Mill Road School Nature Trail Clean Up Day:** Hop Michael described the many pokeberries and commented that there are white cedars and maples which are okay, many others are dead. A work day should be scheduled and spring letter written. Nancy Guski was called and she cannot help. We will not be planting there but wish to continue the poster contest. Nature Trail hikes are doable.

3. **Rec Park West:** Trees were ordered with Village Green. Ordered 10 but only 7 available. They should arrive in late October or early November. Three hot wing maple (with red seeds) will get to be about 20 feet high. A prunus accolade was suggested along with 3 tree ivory silk lilacs, maple (maser ruby slipper). Michele Decker will dig the holes. Six holes will be dug for Rec Park West (RPW).

4. **Tree Inventory Update:** Nothing done to date perhaps in April or May this project can be started.

5. **Watering System:** A possible system was discussed with Keith from the local Agway for a 65 gallon tank for about \$200. Invasive jumping worms was discussed briefly.

6. **New Planting Site:** Liza Migliorelli is excited to have trees planted. Members will meet with her Friday or Monday morning at 9 am.

7. **Budget:** *Linda Keeling* noticed the town budget didn't specify our \$2500 budget line item but rather noticed a \$6000 line item under

highway for trees. *Chairman Cathy Michael* will check with Ann Conway regarding our budget request which was sent in.

There is still some money left-over in our budget which can be used to buy mulch, fertilizer and tree books. *Eleanor Friery* had 5 left-over books and ordered 18 more that will cost between \$250 and \$300. *Hop Michael* will get the mulch, fencing and stakes for about \$100. These expenditures will use up our budget for this year.

New Business

1. Possible New Member: *Codie Hay* suggested Chris from Stanfordville whom he works with as a tree trimmer. Karen Cadorette asked what the town rules are for new members. Linda Keeling answered that a person must live in Red Hook but he can attend. He just couldn't vote.

Codie Hay also volunteered to do the Nature Trail with the grade children as *Eleanor Friery* does not have the time to do it in the future. *Linda Keeling* (as a former elementary teacher) also volunteered to help *Codie*.

Hop Michael commented that many maples have a fungus, the leaves are falling prematurely and lack color due to the extensive rains.

2. Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 7 pm.

3. Adjourn: *Hop Michael* motioned to adjourn the meeting and *Doug Grover* seconded, all agreed at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, Secretary