

EMERSON SHADE TREE COMMISSION MINUTES
APRIL 9TH, 2014
7:30 P.M.

2014 Shade Tree Commission Chairman Schaefer called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call –

Vice Chairman Hoffman	Present	
Mr. Frassa		Present
Ms. Frassa		Absent
Chairman Schaefer	Present	
Mr. Kraycinovich		Present
Ms. Merida		Present
Councilwoman DiPaola	Absent	
Secretary Rizza		Present

The **announcement** was made regarding adequate notice of this meeting and posting of all such notice. Fire exit locations were identified to all present.

The **minutes** of March 12, 2014 were approved on a motion by Mr. Kraycinovich, seconded by Mr. Frassa, and carried.

Approval of Bills – there was a bill from North Jersey Media for \$19.85 for 2014 meeting publication. This was approved on a motion from Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Mr. Frassa, and carried.

The meeting was opened to the public on a motion from Mr. Frassa, seconded by Mr. Kraycinovich, and carried.

Don Pierro – 70 Eagle Drive – Mr. Pierro moved into town last May – has a multi stemmed pin oak town tree that he would like to remove to do plantings. He is willing to have a new tree planted within the easement.

Mr. Frassa made a motion to take this tree down. This motion was seconded by Ms. Merida and carried by all members present.

Tree species were recommended to the homeowners. The location for the new tree will be marked by the town.

Tree Inspectors Report –

Mr. Frassa –

211 Hasbrouck Avenue – 2 trees need to be removed. They are uprooting the curb and the sidewalk. These trees are not healthy and are hazardous. A motion to remove the maple tree and trim the sycamore tree or remove if necessary, was made by Mr. Frassa, seconded by Mr. Hoffman and carried by roll call vote of all present.

Mr. Hoffman noted that the homeowner implied that the Shade Tree Commission is responsible for sidewalks – this is not true and this information will be taken off the website by the Administrator.

Margaret Melillo – 20 Summer Court – there is a sweet gum tree that needs to come down – it is lifting the sidewalk and the driveway. A motion to remove was made by Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Mr. Kraycinovich and carried by roll call vote of all present.

76 Palisade Avenue – tree and stump have been removed.

Palisades Avenue – oak tree limb fell – this has been trimmed.

Mr. Pinelli – 43 Hollywood – the tree has been taken down. It cost \$450.00 to remove the stump. It wasn't a very good job – the town will fix. The homeowner would like a Japanese lilac tree.

Roger Sweeney – 102 Munsey – would like two trees.

Daniel Mugano - 44 Highland – was promised a tree. He has a Norway maple that is in bad shape that needs to come down. A motion to remove this tree was made by Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Ms. Merida, and carried by roll call vote of all present.

Mr. Schaefer -

Karen Mastropaolo – 115 Highland Avenue – a listing tree needs to be looked at.

Rich Worthington of Chestnut Street would like a replacement tree. Mr. Frassa will call him.

Mr. Hoffman –

Mrs. Formicola of Pine Drive has a sweet gum tree to be removed. This has been on the list a long time.

76 Palisades Avenue – Mr. Frassa explained that there is an enormous tree that the homeowner would like removed. It is not a town tree and we should not get involved.

Old Business –

Forcellati Brothers will be planting a golden rain tree for Arbor Day. Ken Hoffman will handle the press release stating date, time and place. The proclamation needs to be done by the Mayor. Letters have been sent requesting honorees. Mr. Milton Gilmore has responded. Ken suggested including his friend, Mark Becker of Bergen Swan, and would be willing to speak about him at the ceremony.

Tree planting quotes:

Two have been received – Forcellati and Almstead. Almstead was received late. Forcellati should win by default. A motion was made to call Almstead to see if their measurement was the same as Forcellatis and to check on their availability. A motion was made for this by Ken Hoffman, seconded by Mr. Frassa, with a roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Merida	No
Mr. Schaefer	Yes
Mr. Kraycinovich	No
Mr. Frassa	No
Mr. Hoffman	No

Mr. Kraycinovich has volunteered to handle the bid process for next year.

A motion was made to allow Forcellati Brothers of River Vale to plant our trees this year by Mr. Frassa, and seconded by Mr. Hoffman. This was carried by roll call vote with all in favor. Mr. Frassa will notify them.

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A letter from Michael Saudino of 26 Pine Drive was read by Mr. Hoffman. Mr. Saudino would like to pay \$350.00 in place of a tree being planted at his home. Mr. Frassa would like to change the by-laws for when a homeowner goes back on their word that they have to pay the cost of the removal and pay to have a tree planted somewhere else in town. Mr. Hoffman read the ordinance and stated that it sounds like he is doing what he is supposed to. Ken feels we should take the money, but that it could be more if we had picked a more expensive tree. The possible ordinance change will be discussed in the future.

New Business -

Ken Hoffman showed all present a picture of damage to a tree in his neighborhood. This is a violation of the ordinance and he will speak to Mike Sartori about it. Ken feels that the developer is responsible and feels that we could ask him for a new tree. A vote was taken to inform Mike Sartori of this and request him to issue a summons to the owner/developer. The motion for this was made by Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Ms.Merida, and carried by roll call vote of all present.

Another picture was shown of a tree at 9 Ridge with something nailed into it. This is also a violation.

\$5400.00 is owed to the Commission from the Elm Terrace application that was before the Land Use Board.

A motion was made to send a letter to the Land Use Board on proper procedures regarding trees from Mr. Frassa, seconded by Mr. Hoffman, and carried by roll call vote of all present.

Hackensack Golf Club tree management plans have been given to the Commission for review.

The Shade Tree Commission membership was discussed. The Mayor will be informed by Ken Hoffman of who should move up and who has resigned. Ken would like to see a press release looking for new members.

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A motion to adjourn was made Ms. Merida, and seconded by Mr. Hoffman, and carried by all present.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Rizza