

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF**  
**SHADE TREE COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, September 6, 2016 6:34 pm**

1. Shade Tree Commission Chair Mark Borst called the Shade Tree Commission Public Business Meeting to order at 6:35 pm in the small conference room on the second floor of Town Hall.
2. Shade Tree Commission Secretary Nancy Cole read the Open Public Meetings statement: "This Public Business Meeting of the Wyckoff Shade Tree Commission is now in session. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this Public Business Meeting appears on our Annual Schedule of meetings. A copy of said Annual Schedule has been posted on the Bulletin Board in Memorial Town Hall; a copy has been filed with the Municipal Clerk, The Record, The Ridgewood News and the North Jersey Herald News - all newspapers which have general circulation throughout the Township of Wyckoff. At least 48 hours prior to this meeting, the Agenda thereof was similarly posted, filed and mailed to said newspapers." Formal action may be taken at this meeting.
3. Roll Call - Present:  
Shade Tree Commission members: Mark Borst, Dan Kindergan, Scott Fisher, Michael Tode  
Staff present: Nancy Cole, Shade Tree Commission Secretary  
Township Committee Liaison: John A. Carolan, Township Committeeman  
Absent: Glenn Sietsma
4. Residents, Mr. Dennis Yachovetsky and Mrs. Jackie Yachovetsky were present at the start of the Shade Tree Commission meeting, so the agenda was re-ordered to accommodate them so that they could communicate the reason for their visit. Mr. Yachovetsky said that they were present at the meeting to plead their case for the removal of a tree located in the right-of-way that they believe is infested with carpenter ants. They showed the commissioners photos of the damage that has been caused to a bedroom window of their home due to carpenter ant infestation and explained how the ants come out at 10pm and are not visible during the day. They want the Township to remove the tree. Chair, Mark Borst and Commissioner, Scott Fisher both explained that they had visited the property, inspected the tree and that the tree appears to be healthy. John Carolan stated that the Township does not remove healthy trees, that this is the purpose of the Shade Tree Commission; the preservation of the Township's trees. He also said that the Township does not have a spraying program. Mr. Yachovetsky once again stated his case and John Carolan thanked them for coming, the group had heard their concerns and it was explained that the commission would discuss the situation and speak to the Township Administrator and a decision would be communicated within one week.
5. Approval of the meeting minutes from June 7, 2016. Mark Borst made motion to approve April 12, 2016 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Dan Kindergan. All present voted in favor; motion approved.
6. **Old Business**
  - a. The status of shade tree requests was discussed. Scott Fisher communicated to the other commissioners that he took one day and drove around town looking at the locations on the list, making notes and marking trees that he felt were candidates for removal. Scott will review the list with Nancy and the list will be updated and shared with the other commissioners very soon.
  - b. An Emerald Ash Borer trap that was received in May from the NJ EAB Task Force has been hanging in an Ash tree in the center island of Wyckoff Community Park. As per an email received from Pam Zipse at Rutgers, the trap is to be taken down at this time and any samples obtained from the trap will be collected with the trap beginning next Monday, September 12, 2016. The program was successful in confirming new locations for Emerald Ash Borers
  - c. The Arbor Day event for 2017 can be put onto the Township calendar to take place on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Some of the trees from Russell Farms Community Park may be ready to be moved to a new location on that day. Scott Fisher suggested that Pulis Complex would be a good location to plant trees to commemorate Arbor Day in 2017.
  - d. It is the responsibility of the Shade Tree Commissioners to be alert as they drive through the Township and notice and identify trees in the right-of-way and on private property which may be unsafe. Any tree that appears unsafe must be reported to the secretary as soon as possible.

**6. New Business**

a. Mayor Kevin Rooney joined the meeting and Michael B. Tode was sworn in as a Shade Tree Commissioner. Mark Borst explained the responsibilities of a commissioner and that if there is a tree that any commissioner would like a second opinion on, that they can contact another commissioner to confer.

b. The Shade Tree Commission reviewed the preliminary landscape plan for the Major Subdivision at 363 Smith Place. It was determined that it is difficult to provide a thorough review without walking the site. Two commissioners will conduct a site visit in order to provide an opinion. A discussion regarding the fact that the plan is still in the preliminary stages and it is unclear if the subdivision will include 3 home sites or 4 home sites ensued. The review requested appears to be TOO preliminary.

c. 387 Cornell Street – see above.

d. Review of memo regarding 784 Highview Drive. Mark Borst re-iterated that the tree in question appears to be in good health. A written response is not the practice of the Shade Tree commission and this request will not be provided.

e. Instructions for watching the Harassment Prevention training were distributed and it was requested that each commissioner notify Nancy via email once they had completed the video training. Mark Borst stated that he has already reviewed the video and confirmed via Sue Mc Quaid as he serves on another board for the Township.

Motion to adjourn by Scott Fisher, second by Dan Kindergan. All present voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned 7:35 pm.

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Nancy Cole, Secretary  
Shade Tree Commission