COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
Shade Tree Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2024, 7 P.M.
14 Heyers Mill Road (Recreation Center)*
Colts Neck Township

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1. **Meeting called to Order at 7:11 PM**

2. **Saluted the Flag w/ Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Sunshine Law Notice –** *The following notice was read by the Secretary.*

   "THE NOTICE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW JERSEY PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW HAVE BEEN SATISFIED BY NOTICING THE ASBURY PARK PRESS AND THE TWO RIVER TIMES ON JANUARY 23, 2024 STATING THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION WOULD BE HELD ON MARCH 21, 2024 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE COLTS NECK RECREATION, 14 HEYERS MILL ROAD. A COPY IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP CLERK."

4. **Roll Call**
   Present:
   LIAISON COMMITTEEMAN JP BARTOLOMEO
   EILEEN STIVALA
   PATRICIA EASTMAN
   ALLAN RYAN
   TINA FREEDMAN
   DINA RYAN

   Absent Or Excused:
   HENRY HAMMOND
   JOHN CLEMENTE

5. **Approval of Minutes February 1, 2024**

   Comments? – None
   Motion to Approve by Allan Ryan
   Seconded by Eileen Stivala
   Roll Call – Minutes Unanimously Approved

6. **Discussion Items**

   - Chairperson – Status re:

* Meeting held at Rec Center due to Library unavailability given special meeting date

1. Colts Neck ordinance Chapter 62 and amending Ordinance 2022-15 –- JP Bartolomeo will address a summary of what the amending ordinance covers at next STC meeting

2. JP presented maps for a designated area to illustrate what an undertaking evaluating and treating trees may involve.

3. Discussion re prospective new members. Tina Freedman proposed Brook Crossan as a prospective new member.

7. **Old Business –**

Seedling Give-Away Date is pending date confirmation; NJ Forestry Service will not be providing saplings for 2024 because the Township could not meet pick up and distribution requirements set by the NJ Forestry Service. However, Bartlett Tree Service will be supplying the saplings - Eileen Stivala to advise further.

Bartlett Tree proposal status – Liaison Bartolomeo reports that it is the Township Committee's decision to not approve funding of any further tree treatment.

8. New Business

A. Plans – **Charleston Meadows** – Application PB 753 – Block 42, Lot 4 – Not in purview of STC (plans submitted for changes in exterior building finishings)– plans were previously submitted in 2022.

B. . Laura Riley tendered her resignation on 3/19/2024, effective immediately (moving out of town).

C. Per Tina Freedman – Review of materials Tina Freedman provided from Paul Cowie and Associates. Tina Freedman was going to contact Paul Cowie and Associates about coming in to make a presentation as to tree evaluation and treatment.

D. Looking into Specific date to visit the arboretum and give a status report; Allan Ryan is going to check with Monmouth County Vocational School to see if there are prospects for student volunteers.

E. Patty Eastman is going to look prospect of controlled burns.

9. Comments from the Public

Motion to Open Public Comment made by Allan Ryan
Seconded by Eileen Stivala
All in Favor - Unanimous

Melinda Martin of 52 Glenwood Road gave an update on her previous presentation on Parasitoid Wasps treatment in controlling both native - pests and invasive species on Emerald Ash Borer trees – she further reports that it not a suitable treatment for this area; simultaneously Laision Bartolomeo indicated such a treatment would not be approved in any event; however overall the Township Committee has determined that no further tree treatments would be approved. As a new item, Melinda made inquiry about receiving tree testing materials from Department of Agriculture to be done on a strictly volunteer basis. That raises the question as to whether or not the Township Committee would approve such an approach.

Gary Federico of 9 Culpepper Key attended the meeting for information purposes with an interesting in applying for committee membership; made some commentary on what he thought was the poor condition of the Township's Emerald Ash Borer trees and his suggestion was cutting down existing troubled trees and planting new ones

Motion to Close Public Comment made by Allan Ryan
Seconded by Eileen Stivala
All in Favor - Unanimous

10. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn made by Patty Eastman
Seconded by Allan Ryan – meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM
All in Favor - Unanimous

The next Shade Tree Commission Meeting will be
Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 7 PM
2 Veterans Way (Library Meeting Room), Colts Neck Township

Respectfully submitted,
Dina Ryan
Secretary