

**HADDON TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION
MINUTES
APRIL 26, 2023**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Township of Haddon Shade Tree Commission held on Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Haddon Township Environmental and Historical Center at 143 E. Ormond Avenue Haddon Township, New Jersey.

Chapter 231, Public Law 1975 requires adequate notice of this meeting be provided specifying time, place, and agenda. This has been done by placing an Annual Notice in the Courier-Post and Retrospect Newspapers, and by posting on two bulletin boards in the Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL

Chris Squazzo	Present
John Nystedt	Present
Kevin Murphy	Present
Renee Papaneri	Absent Excused
Jim Rhodes	Present
Morris Cooperman	Present
Betty Brookes	Present

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

Addition to the agenda: Morris Cooperman – diseases affecting Oaks.

MINUTES

John Nystedt motioned to approve the minutes from the March 22nd, 2023 meeting. Morris seconded. Jim Rhodes sustained. Minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rob Thuener, a resident from Lindes Farne attended the meeting to observe. Lee Palo, Haddon Township Compliance, attended the meeting. Also in attendance, John Walter and Steve Rudenstein.

Steve Rudenstein from Oriental Avenue attended the meeting to obtain information on planting a curb tree. Betty Brookes will email the permit and approved tree list. Chris Squazzo offered to help on selecting the right tree for the right location.

John Walter from 600 Westmont Avenue attended the meeting to request permission to remove a healthy tree next to his driveway for the purpose of extending his driveway.

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John brought pictures of the tree and discussed the issue of surface roots. He explained that he is willing to pay for the removal of tree and plant two new trees on Evergreen Avenue and possibly a third on Westmont Avenue. He intends to plant larger 2-1/2" caliper trees. Chris Squazzo has been to the location and said the tree in question is a healthy Black Gum and it was his opinion the tree should not be removed but invited the resident to address the commission. Chris explained that the Shade Tree Commissioners would go to the location and at the May meeting vote on whether or not the resident is permitted to remove the tree. Chris will not vote because he has a personal relationship with resident.

BUSINESS

Tree Planting Fall 2023: Tabled

Tree Inventory: Jim Rhodes discussed the capabilities of Gov Pilot and expanding the current inventory. He requested the information on all trees planted by the Shade Tree Commission. Betty will email all the information that is available. Jim explained that there is an approved internship program with Camden County and Rutgers' Camden location. There is a possibility of having two interns work in Haddon Township on the tree inventory this upcoming Fall. The tree inventory is one of the major goals of the Community Forestry Management Plan.

Memorial Trees: John Nystedt reached out to Commissioner Ryan Linhart regarding adding bricks to the pocket garden next to the Municipal Building for the Memorial Trees. At this time, Commissioner Linhart thought it was not a good idea for that location. John suggested using the Environmental Center.

Jim said there is an upcoming project by Camden County for the restoration of Haddon Avenue. It was suggested by Jim that maybe trees could be planted along Haddon Avenue as part of the project. Chris Squazzo will reach out to the Camden County Engineer working on the restoration project.

Salem Oak: At this time there is no schedule to plant the Salem Oak.

Tree Tenders: Tabled

Community Forestry Management Plan: Tabled

Violations: Lee Palo, Haddon Township Compliance, attended the meeting. There is a tree located behind the new Union Hall on Haddon Avenue that needs to be removed. Chris will evaluate the tree.

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MEMBER AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was an in-depth discussion regarding diseases affecting oak trees in Haddon Township. Morris wants to have a sample of one of the oaks being remove to determine type of disease.

ADJOURNMENT

Jim motioned to adjourn the regular meeting. John seconded. Meeting adjourned.