

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
SHADE TREE COMMISSION – TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN  
VIRTUAL MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 4, 2021**

**OAKHURST, NEW JERSEY**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** The Regular Meeting was a virtual meeting held on Go To Meeting beginning at 7:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Chairperson: Norman Colten  
Member(s): Stephen Gaudette, Jack Kearns  
Alternate(s): Ken Lutz  
Associate(s):  
Liaison: Margie Donlon, Councilwoman  
Others: Jennifer Nordstrom, Secretary  
Donna Oates, Secretary  
Michael Davenport

**Absent:** Member(s): Moshe Gordon, Hank Kliem  
Alternate(s): Michelle Crosta  
Associate(s): Marc Rogoff, Carolyn Gulick, Laurel Von Gerichten

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW:**

Norman Colten announced that the notice requirements of the Open Public Meeting Law for this meeting have been satisfied; a copy of the Annual Notice was sent to the Asbury Park Press, The Coaster, News 12 New Jersey and posted in Town Hall and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk on July 31, 2020.

**REVIEW:**

**READING OF AGENDA.**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Motion to approve by Steve Gaudette; seconded by Norman Colten. All were in Favor.

**BUSINESS:**

**BUDGET:**

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

Michael Davenport proposed an Invasive Vine Removal Project at Joe Palaia Park. After hearing Samantha LaRocca give presentation on NJ Watershed Ambassador Program, Davenport was in touch with Ms. LaRocca to discuss a joint project with the Shade Tree/Environmental Commission and the Ambassadors to make an attempt to tackle the invasive vines that are taking over several areas of Joe Palaia Park. The vines are strangling trees and weighing them down and this will cause the trees to die sooner than they should. April 10, 2020 there will be a volunteer gathering in the park where they plan to start with 3 areas shown on a park map by Davenport. Due to Covid 19 restrictions, there will be a maximum of 25 volunteers and the volunteers should bring their own tools. The Ambassadors have secured 13 tools from Monmouth County to use that day. The Shade Tree/Environmental Commission will be seeking volunteers to help out with this project. The goal is to start with just a few areas thoroughly and see the results before tackling too many areas. Questions and concerns were brought up about the use and application of Roundup or any other Chemicals. Permission will have to be granted by OT DPW for this to be able to be used. A DPW employee will most likely have to handle any chemicals. This project was reviewed by the Town Council and the Interim Town Manager, everyone was onboard. An attempt to get OT DPW involved will be made to have trucks pickup any debris and haul away the vines after they are removed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None received

## **REVISED TREE ORDINANCE:**

## **HAZARDOUS TREE EVALUATIONS & PROCESS:**

106 Bimble Blvd—Letter was sent to Resident granting permission to remove this tree.

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PROGRAMS:**

Chairman Colten reported looking forward to doing the Third Grade Student Tree Program in 2021 and possibly including the Fourth Grade Students as well. Apparent NJDEP has a National Arbor day Foundation, where a town will be able to get up to 1,000 free seedlings. A decision will have to be made by the Shade Tree Commission how many seedlings they would be interested in. Member Kearns has been in touch with High School Teacher Pat Sullivan, who will be instrumental in any student programs the Commission would like to offer. Due to Covid 19, restrictions are still in place so this will be tabled until anything is announced.

## **COMMUNITY FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN:**

## **CONCERNS:**

## **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion was made to adjourn by Member Stephen Gaudette; seconded by Member Jack Kearns. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Jennifer R. Nordstrom, Secretary