

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 9, 2009 MEETING

Present: Nils Abate, Todd Bradbury, George Futterknecht, and Louise Ungar
Guest : Leslie Weatherly
Absent: Susan Boudet, John Kashwick, Anthony Lupardi, Sr. and Richard Ryan

In the absence of the chairperson, Nils called the meeting to order with the Open Meetings Statement. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of the October 12th meeting were approved as written. The Roll Call was taken.

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Correspondence:

We received letters from the Borough Clerk seeking the meeting dates for the year 2010 and asking us to provide recommendations for appointments of those members whose terms expire at the end of this year.

Louise advised the Borough Clerk of the meeting dates (second Monday every month but August) for 2010. Alternate Susan Boudet is the only member whose term expires. Louise advised the Borough Clerk that there was no response to two messages left on her cell phone.

Old Business:

Todd has marked locations and notified residents where the new street trees are to be planted. He expects the planting to begin soon.

Leslie stated 300 years of Closter history will be celebrated on April 24th. As a long-time resident of Closter, could Tony help with historical information on this? Creating a poster board presentation (to be displayed at the Library) regarding old trees in town was mentioned.

Tony is working on updating the Arbor Day photos on the Web site.

After discussion, M/S/C a press release regarding the anticipated tree plantings in District #3+ and our trimming/pruning program in District #4 be sent out to the local newspapers.

Suggestions should be brought to the next meeting for an Alternate Member to replace Susan as well as an Alternate Member to fill the spot vacated when Todd was appointed as a regular member of the commission.

There were no reports on the Five-Year Community Forestry Management Plan.

John is monitoring the progress of the Ordinance Committee on the suggested 12/15 Feet location of shade trees.

There was discussion regarding requiring shade trees where there is new construction. How could the trees on the property be protected? Who would check to see that the requirements are met? Todd feels we should follow through on this.

The Mid-Year 2009 Community Forestry Status Report shows one individual has obtained 5 CEUs as of August 17th. We will check to ascertain the name of the person.

George states that John has been looking into obtaining a Grant. A suggested theme might be "Creating A Majestic Garden Way Into Closter." There are a few areas in town that could be addressed.

The question was asked is there a tree that could be planted on public property to celebrate the 300 years of Closter? A Chestnut tree was mentioned as a species that was prevalent then.

As mentioned at the October 12th meeting, there are about four trees that are lifting the sidewalk in a retention basin at Trautwein Crescent. Suggestions were made as to how we could develop this area into a showcase to display methods of addressing this problem. We will discuss this further.

New Business:

George thinks new plantings should include some Red Maples. Todd indicates we are planting these this year. How about some Kwanzan Cherries? It is agreed diversification of species would be good.

Todd spoke regarding new construction.

Todd had noted someone in a wheel chair in another town had a problem with a misaligned sidewalk. He shared this with us for informational purposes.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise G. Ungar
Secretary