

CHATHAM BOROUGH SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
Reorganization and Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, January 16, 2018 7:30 p.m.

Colleen Truppo called the Reorganization/Regular Meeting of the Shade Tree Commission to order at 7:30 p.m., Room 301, Upper Level, Chatham Borough Hall. The Open Public Meetings Act was read aloud.

| Name                           | Present | Absent |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Colleen Truppo                 | X       |        |
| Christopher Jadro              |         | X      |
| Fran Drew                      | X       |        |
| Ken Fekete                     | X       |        |
| Dean Wilson                    | X       |        |
| Kristy Chmura                  | X       |        |
| Ken Chmura                     | X       |        |
| Council Member James Collander | X       |        |
| Tony Torello                   |         | X      |
| Liz Holler, Minutes Secretary  | X       |        |

Administration of Oaths of Office

Ken and Kristy Chmura were sworn in for a new term as Commissioners at the Chatham Borough Reorganization meeting held on January 2, 2018. Tonight, they signed their Oaths of Office to be submitted to the Borough Clerk.

Public Comment

There was none.

Motion to Adopt Meeting Minutes

A motion was made/seconded to approve the Shade Tree Commission meeting minutes for December 19, 2017. The minutes of December 19, 2017 were approved as amended.

Reorganization Resolutions

Mr. Chmura made a motion to approve Resolution #18-01: Resolution of the Chatham Borough Shade Tree Commission Establishing the Annual Meeting Schedule for the Year 2018. Mr. Fekete seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Chmura made a motion to approve Resolution #18-02: Resolution Designating the Official Newspapers for the Publication of Legal Notices for the Year 2018. Mrs. Drew seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Chmura made a motion to postpone Resolution #18-03: Electing the Commission Officers for the Year 2018, to the next meeting. Mr. Fekete seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Chrmn. Truppo noted that Mr. Chmura is now a full member of the Commission. Therefore, two Alternate memberships are now available on the Commission.

Commissioners discussed a resident who has recently applied for membership on the Shade Tree Commission. Chrmn. Truppo reported on the phone conversation she recently had with this gentleman.

Council Member Collander suggested a few more candidates be interviewed for the two membership slots that are open. Some Commissioners suggested this current applicant be invited to attend a Commission meeting. The Commission could explain what areas they need help and expertise in.

Mrs. Drew made a motion to invite this interested resident to a Commission meeting, and let him learn a little bit about the Commissioners, and hear what he has to say.

Chrmn. Truppo stated that she would like to hear from Mr. Jadro to see what his intentions were concerning his Commission membership.

Mrs. Drew made a motion to invite the resident who was interested in membership on the Shade Tree Commission to attend a Commission meeting. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. All Commissioners voted in favor of the motion, except Chrmn. Truppo who abstained.

#### Planning for 2018

Chrmn. Truppo noted that from January through March, the Commission must do their administrative filings. Among these filings are for the NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection and the Forestry Plans. The Commission also has to re-apply to the Arbor Day Foundation for Tree City status. Also, the Commission has to submit its Annual Report to the Borough of Chatham. From April through June, Arbor Day plans should be organized. Also, ash tree plantings and ash tree education will take place for homeowners. From July to August, the Commission will be visiting tree nurseries and looking at tree planting locations.

Council Member Collander reported that at next Monday's Borough Council Meeting, he will give a presentation on what is hoped to be the policy for the new tree ordinance, replacing the old tree ordinance. The power point presentation that will be given will show the core of what the policies will be for trees on private property.

Council Member Collander noted that the following panel members will hopefully be on hand during the presentation: Vince DeNave (Borough Engineer & Zoning Officer), Borough Administrator Steve Williams, Tony Torello (DPW Director), Chrmn. Colleen Truppo, and Arborist John Linson. Council Members will be invited to submit their questions during the presentation. Council Member Collander stated that hopefully the Borough Council will approve of this presentation as the core policy for when Borough Attorney Lott re-writes the new tree ordinance.

Council Member Collander noted that this presentation will be given at the January 22<sup>nd</sup> Council Meeting. All feedback will be received by March.

Mrs. Drew asked Council Member Collander has anyone ever informed the Borough Council of the tree ordinances from the six neighboring towns that she has researched,

Council Member Collander felt that all the Council Members have seen those six tree ordinances from neighboring towns. They've also had the opportunity to look at other documents relating to this issue. Council Member Collander noted that it will take time to put the new ordinance together. It will be an open process.

Mrs. Drew suggested, after the January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, a short discussion could be held regarding the tree ordinances of these six neighboring towns, concerning public and private trees. This discussion would be very educational to the public.

Chrmn. Truppo noted that John Linson, the Borough Arborist, would be able to answer a lot of questions and concerns, about these six ordinances.

Council Member Collander brought up that the proposed ordinance will also regulate what the developers are doing, tree-wise, on private property. Also, the ordinance will require tree service operators in town must be properly licensed and have licensed employees on staff. The ordinance will strive to keep the town's tree canopy and make sure the Borough goes through a reforestation process. Council Member Collander explained how the new revised appeal process for tree removal would work.

Commissioners discussed the possibility of posting notices on trees that will be removed. Residents would then be alerted when a tree is being taken down and the reasons why. Chrmn. Truppo will touch base with Mr. Torello about this idea. Mrs. Drew offered to make these signs and have them laminated.

Returning to the tree ordinance, Council Member Collander noted that Borough Attorney Lott will be removing the current tree ordinance out of the Land Development Ordinance into its own chapter in the Borough Code. The Borough Council would have to vote on this particular action. Two readings will probably be held for the new proposed tree ordinance. An Open Session can be held for public comments.

On other matters, Chrmn. Truppo reviewed the Continuing Educational Units (CEUs) earned thus far by Commissioners.

Mrs. Drew asked if in the 4th quarter of 2018, that the Commission could discuss the issue of underground wiring in the Borough. Commissioners agreed to review this issue in the 4th quarter.

At 8:38 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

The next Shade Tree Commission meeting will be held Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 7:30 p.m., Room 301, Upper Level, Chatham Borough Hall.

Respectfully submitted:

Liz Holler  
Minutes Secretary