

**RAMSEY SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Ramsey Shade Tree Commission was called to order by Mr. Melso at 8:00 p.m., Thursday, April 18, 2019. Also present were Mr. Englishman, Ms. Geist, Mr. Martone, Mr. Rutkowski (arrived at 8:05 p.m.), Mr. Schumacher, Commission members, Mr. Geist, Board Attorney, and Mrs. Dey, Secretary. Mr. Beltramini, Mr. Gubala, Mr. McMahon, and Mr. Kilman, Council Liaison, were absent.

Mr. Melso announced that this meeting is being held in accordance with the Sunshine Laws of the State of New Jersey. Public notice of this meeting was published in the legal ads section of the BERGEN RECORD on Saturday, December 8, 2018 and the RIDGEWOOD NEWS on Friday, December 14, 2018.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Melso led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Schumacher, the minutes of the March 21, 2019 meeting were unanimously accepted as received.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Melso reported that Mr. Knauss has resigned as Shade Tree Coordinator.

Mr. Geist will prepare a resolution following each Shade Tree Commission vote which will be forwarded to the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Minutes-  
Environmental Commission-March 12, 2019  
Planning Board-April 2, 2019

**TREE REMOVAL PERMIT HEARING**

**4 Pine Tree Road**

John Chester, owner of the property, was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Englishman had walked the property. In preparation for the installation of a pool, Mr. Chester requested the removal of twenty hemlocks. Twenty-four green giant arborvitae will be planted on the property. Upon motion by Mr. Englishman, seconded by Mr. Martone, the removal of twenty trees was unanimously approved.

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Beltramini				X
Mr. Gubala				X
Mr. Martone, Vice-Chairman	X			
Mr. McMahan				X
Mr. Rutkowski	X			
Mr. Schumacher	X			
Mr. Melso, Chairman	X			
Ms. Geist, Alt. 1	X			
Mr. Englishman, Alt. 2	X			

### **Treehouse Pediatric, 100 and 100 North Franklin Turnpike, Block 4603, Lots 3, 4**

Clint Lynch, 44 Upland Road, and Michelle Barredo, 303 Darlington Avenue, were in attendance to discuss the removal of twenty-four of the forty-one trees on the site. The bond is \$67,000. There will be fencing around the perimeter and the plantings will be irrigated. Mr. Martone will do the walk-through for the Shade Tree Commission. Upon motion by Mr. Englishman, seconded by Mr. Schumacher, the removal of twenty-four trees was unanimously approved, subject to a walk-through.

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Beltramini				X
Mr. Gubala				X
Mr. Martone, Vice-Chairman	X			
Mr. McMahan				X
Mr. Rutkowski	X			
Mr. Schumacher	X			
Mr. Melso, Chairman	X			
Ms. Geist, Alt. 1	X			
Mr. Englishman, Alt. 2	X			

### **SITE PLAN REVIEW**

#### **Bank of America, 76 East Main Street**

Brightview Enterprise Solutions had been retained by Bank of America. Orlando Feliciano returned with a revised landscape plan at the March meeting. All new plantings need to be trimmable. Additionally, the heights of the plant material need to meet federal safety requirements. Mr. Feliciano spoke with Mr. Beltramini regarding some of the plantings. Junipers were added along Spruce Street and junipers were substituted for some of the perennials from the original plan. All plantings will be deer resistant. Four borough trees are going in, probably between May 15<sup>th</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>. Irrigation is part of the plan, on timers, and will be done as soon as possible. Mr. Feliciano added block and lot to the drawing since it will become a legal document. He would like to begin

planting in May. Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Schumacher, the landscape plan was unanimously approved.

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Beltramini				X
Mr. Gubala				X
Mr. Martone, Vice-Chairman	X			
Mr. McMahon				X
Mr. Rutkowski	X			
Mr. Schumacher	X			
Mr. Melso, Chairman	X			
Ms. Geist, Alt. 1	X			
Mr. Englishman, Alt. 2	X			

### **Konica Minolta, 101 Williams Drive, Block 3902, Lot 2**

This plan will be continued until construction is complete. Mr. McMahon is keeping an eye on the construction.

### **125 Summit Avenue**

Twenty-nine trees will be removed in preparation for the proposed development. Six trees will be taken down in the front.

### **TREE REMOVAL PERMIT VIOLATIONS**

#### **Corner of Biscayne Drive and East Crescent Avenue**

Four trees were taken out by Mr. Dean and four trees should be going in. A permanent certificate of occupancy will not be issued by the borough's building department until the builder meets all of the Shade Tree requirements and the trees are planted.

#### **PDL, 25 North Spruce Street**

Michael Inserra was present with his new plan for the property on North Spruce Street. He will plant fifteen shrubs in two rows, staggered and three feet apart. The back row will be Kings Gold Chamaecyparis (eight); the front row will be Euonymus Aureomarginatus (seven). There is irrigation and the plantings will be mulched. The dogs are being walked away from the site. Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Schumacher, the landscape plan was unanimously approved.

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Beltramini				X
Mr. Gubala				X
Mr. Martone, Vice-Chairman	X			
Mr. McMahon				X
Mr. Rutkowski	X			
Mr. Schumacher	X			
Mr. Melso, Chairman	X			
Ms. Geist, Alt. 1	X			
Mr. Englishman, Alt. 2	X			

### LANDSCAPING PLAN REVIEW

#### **McDonald's, 846 Route 17N, Block 4702, Lot 2**

Mr. Melso reported that the island is done, and the rocks are out. The mulch is in and it is expected that the plants will be put in shortly.

#### **495 North Franklin Turnpike, Block 3802, Lot 4**

Donato D'Angelo and his son were present to discuss the removal of trees at the Franklin Turnpike site. There is an original landscape plan which needs to be followed. Eighteen years ago, there were trees in front of the building. They are gone and a boxwood hedge was put in. Those hedges are now starting to die. They were told that if changes were made to the original landscape plan, they would need to return to the Shade Tree Commission with a new plan. Mr. D'Angelo indicated that original trees on the site had been destroyed during storms. Salt-tolerant trees are needed. The original plan should be used as a guide for what should be on the site. The Shade Tree Commission will work with him to bring the site back to the way it should be. He was also told about the problem with water run-off from his property which is going on to the neighboring property at 503 North Franklin Turnpike. It was suggested that the Belgian blocks on his property be pitched in a different way to stop that run-off. Someone from 503 North Franklin Turnpike, either Mr. McCarthy or Mr. Montalbano, plans to be at the May meeting. Mr. D'Angelo will return in May with his landscaper.

#### **Maywoods Grove Two, LLC, 213 Grove Street, Block 1402, Lots 6 & 7**

The tree list which had been submitted by Andrew Siemsen at the March meeting did not match the plan. There was a labeling problem. As requested, a readjusted plan/tree list was available after he clarified the plan with Tibor Latincsics of Conklin Associates. Mr. Martone walked the property with Mr. Latincsics and Mr. Siemsen. Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Englishman, the amended/corrected tree inventory list was unanimously approved.

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Beltramini				X
Mr. Gubala				X
Mr. Martone, Vice-Chairman	X			
Mr. McMahon				X
Mr. Rutkowski	X			
Mr. Schumacher	X			
Mr. Melso, Chairman	X			
Ms. Geist, Alt. 1	X			
Mr. Englishman, Alt. 2	X			

### **Ramsey Lumber, 575 Island Road**

The lumber yard will be re-opening. The landscaping needs to be looked at.

### **50 South Franklin Turnpike**

A letter was sent since trees were removed and some landscaping is being done.

### **TD Bank, 1100 Lake Street**

The name of the property manager is needed since the property is not looking good.

### **LANDSCAPE BOND REVIEW-None**

### **PLANNING BOARD APPLICATION STATUS-None**

### **BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT APPLICATION STATUS-None**

### **RESIDENTIAL SITE INSPECTIONS**

All trees must be marked and there must be a decision about what to do with the stumps.

**211 South Central Avenue**-The county will remove one tree and grind the stump; the contractor will trim one tree.

**72 West Main Street**-The county will remove one maple tree.

**345 Elbert Street**-Someone took a look last year, but nothing has been done.

**25 Monroe Street**-A tree needs trimming.

**131 Momar Drive**-There are two trees with branches hanging down.

**67 Bedford Place**-Two trees on Fairhaven Drive need to be elevated. The trees are marked.

**76/84 Church Street and Cedar Street**-The tree is on Cedar Street and needs to be trimmed and elevated. The tree is marked.

**New Street/corner of 81 West Main Street**-The tree is on New Street. It needs to be trimmed and elevated. The tree is marked.

**New Street/corner of West Main Street (across from the dental lab)**-The tree is on New Street and is marked for removal.

**23 Joshua Drive**-The tree is marked for removal.

**37 New England Drive**-The tree by the mailbox will be elevated and the dead branches will be removed. The dead tree in the center of lawn will be removed. The tree on the right side will be trimmed and elevated.

**8 Greenview Place**-Four oak trees need to be elevated and trimmed. Two trees are on the Greenview Place side and two are on the Lakeview Terrace side.

**105 Oakridge Road**-The dead limb over the roadway will be removed.

**22 Rose Avenue**-The rotted locust tree in the way of driveway expansion and a second locust tree will be removed; both are marked.

**462 Darlington Avenue**-There is a limb in contact with power line which needs to be removed; the tree is marked. Also, there is a branch on the tree on the left side of driveway which needs to be removed.

**4 Brittany Court**-The tree is marked for removal; grind stump.

**109 High Street**-The tree is marked for removal; grind stump.

**223 Darlington Avenue**-The tree is marked for removal grind stump.

**482 North Central Avenue**-The county will remove the dead tree which is marked for removal; grind stump.

**170 North Central Avenue**-One tree is marked for removal. A second opinion is needed as to the integrity of the trees located between two homes. They are old decaying ash trees that are leaning.

**124 Chestnut Street**-A letter was sent.

**19 Cobblestone Lane**-The tree in the rear of the yard in a borough easement is marked for removal and flush cut the stump.

**16 Knollwood Drive**-The tree in question has not leafed out yet.

**12 Van Gelder Court**-Trees have been marked with a red elevation line.

**25 Tulip Street**-Two crab apple trees have been marked with a red "X" for removal and stump grinding. Three new trees should be planted at this location, two little leaf lindens and one Kousa dogwood.

### **COMMERCIAL SITE INSPECTIONS**

The Shade Tree Commissioners continue to check their assigned areas. The Comfort Inn was mentioned. Mr. Schumacher noted that there are a lot of dead trees on Franklin Turnpike by the lake.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The \$1,500 remaining balance was released to Downes Tree Service.

Mrs. Dey provided a "Trees are Terrific" poster contest update.

Joseph Carey from the Planning Board requested Shade Tree Commission input regarding 25 North Franklin Turnpike, the Board of Education property. Mr. Melso will contact him.

The Commissioners were reminded to file their Financial Disclosure Statements if they have not already done so.

**NEW BUSINESS**-None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**-None

Mr. Melso announced that the Public Comment portion of the meeting would last approximately five minutes per person.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m. upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Englishman, and carried unanimously.

