

**RAMSEY SHADE TREE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Ramsey Shade Tree Commission was called to order by Mr. Melso at 8:00 p.m., Thursday, May 16, 2019. Also present were Mr. Beltramini, Ms. Geist, Mr. Martone, Mr. McMahon, Mr. Rutkowski (arrived at 8:08 p.m.), Mr. Schumacher, Commission members, Mr. Geist, Board Attorney, Mr. Kilman, Council Liaison, Mr. Trouf, Coordinator, and Mrs. Dey, Secretary. Mr. Englishman and Mr. Gubala 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. McMahon, the minutes of the April 18, 2019 meeting were unanimously accepted as received.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Melso welcomed Mr. Trouf as the new Shade Tree Coordinator.

Ms. Geist reported that there is a lot of brush at the ramp onto Route 17S. Clearing the site would be a state job.

There is no date for the completion of Ramsey's Chick-fil-A.

Downes Tree Service won the bid for tree replacements. However, the plant material which is available now is not good so the replacement trees will be planted in October when there is a better selection. Oaks on the list will be replaced with another species. The state grant will still be in place. Letters to homeowners who will be getting a tree will be going out shortly.

COMMUNICATIONS

Minutes-
Environmental Commission-April 9, 2019
Planning Board-April 16, 2019

TREE REMOVAL PERMIT HEARING**Treehouse Pediatric, North Franklin Turnpike, Block 4603, Lots 3, 4**

Clint Lynch, 44 Upland Road, was present because two trees were taken out at the Treehouse Pediatric site which should not have been removed. Two six-to-seven-foot Norway spruces will be planted as replacement trees.

21 Sauna Road

The landscaper who was going to attend the meeting did not get the job so no one from the address was in attendance.

SITE PLAN REVIEW**Bank of America, 76 East Main Street**

Brightview Enterprise Solutions had been retained by Bank of America. Orlando Feliciano of Brightview had presented the landscape plan. Because of the Bank of America timetable, the plantings which were put in were mulched. The borough trees will be going in after the plantings.

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.

61 Grant Street

Tom Lind of M&M Supplies Inc. was present to discuss the property. He cleaned up the site and is preparing an application. Two trees were taken down prior to closing. He put

in four green giant arborvitae and plans to put in more. He will be renting out the front. Mr. Lind received a letter, indicating that a landscape plan is needed. He noted that he will be the first in the Grant Street area with a beautification plan. He is working from the back to the front.

Ramsey Square

Michael Tode of Wyckoff, the landscape contractor for the site, was present to discuss the plans for the property. Twenty-three trees were cut down, but no permit was applied for. They did not remove any of the shade trees, only removing trees which they thought they could as they cleaned up the property. There are many new tenants coming to the shopping center. The sycamores and the junipers will remain. The plan he presented needs some modifications. TMP Design Studio of Upper Saddle River is working on the project which currently includes new perennials, drought-resistant plantings, lirioppe, and ornamental grasses. Mr. Melso asked that the base of the sign be buffered. No irrigation is currently on the site. Before the June meeting a new drawing with plant list is needed for the Commissioners when they visit the site. The tree removal permit violation will be held for now.

LANDSCAPING PLAN REVIEW

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

All of the stone which is on the site should be dark mulch. Mr. Trouf will send a letter regarding the mulch.

495 North Franklin Turnpike, Block 3802, Lot 4

Donato D'Angelo and his son were present at the April meeting 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. Mr. D'Angelo did not return in May with his landscaper.

503 North Franklin Turnpike

George McCarthy was present to discuss both the forsythia on his property as well as the run-off from 495 North Franklin Turnpike. The Shade Tree Commission would like the forsythia removed and replaced with green giant arborvitae. White pines were on the original landscape plan. However, they died, and the stumps were removed; Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Montalbano planted the forsythia because forsythia are salt-tolerant which the white pines were not. He is reluctant to change any of the landscaping until the water run-off issue with 495 North Franklin Turnpike is rectified. Ultimately the landscape plan at 503 North Franklin Turnpike will be reviewed and the landscaping will be brought up to the plan. There was a question about whether a CO can be pulled if the landscaping is not in compliance with the submitted and approved plan. Mr. McCarthy will return in June.

Ramsey Lumber, 575 Island Road

James Jaworski was present with updated information about the Ramsey Lumber site. The lumber yard will be re-opening; Newcastle Builders will be leasing the property. Only vehicles associated with that business will be stored at the site. The landscape plan on file is from 2009/2010. There is a lot of dead material which will need to be removed. Tibor Latincsis of Conklin Associates will be developing the new landscape plan. The resident at 41 Ferguson Place was present to listen to the information. The plantings and fencing will be done at the same time.

50 South Franklin Turnpike

A letter was sent since trees were removed and some landscaping is being done. According to John Angamarca of Woodland Trees, French drains are being installed first and then the landscaping will be done. He noted that there is not a lot of room for plantings. He had a plant list which will need to be modified and then submitted along with a new landscape plan. There is irrigation on the site which will need to be salvaged.

TD Bank, 1100 Lake Street

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

125 Lakeside Drive/Ramsey Country Club

Richard and Joanne Reimer, the property owners, delineated the issues which they have with the Ramsey Country Club. The Board of Adjustment had determined that the Shade Tree Commission should make the final decision about the screening buffer between the properties, their property at 125 Lakeside Drive and the maintenance area of the Ramsey Country Club. The Reimer's landscaper will develop a landscape plan for the June meeting. A representative of the country club will be asked to attend.

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.

36 New Street-There is a hanging branch to the left of the house.

6 Alida Place-The left trunk which is marked with a dash is the only part to be cut.

237 Davidson Avenue-The tree marked with a red X should be removed.

157 Norman Drive-The two trees to the right of the house in Green Acres which are leaning into the property; they will be cut and dropped into the woods.

45 Sun Valley Road-Two trees by the fire hydrant will be removed.

62 Jean Street-The two lower branches and dead limbs should be removed; the tree is marked with a red line.

320 Elbert Street-The dead branches at the top of the tree need to be trimmed.

575 Darlington Avenue (Adorno Fathers)-The county will remove the dead tree.

COMMERCIAL SITE INSPECTIONS

The Shade Tree Commissioners continue to check their assigned areas. The Store, 160 East Main Street, and the new tenants at 161 East Main Street (Wells Fargo Bank) will be asked to attend an upcoming meeting.

Mr. Melso looked at 70 Hilltop Road. The dead junipers need to be removed. Mr. Beltramini will contact Mr. Murphy, the manager of the property.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Dey provided a "Trees are Terrific" poster contest update. The twelve winners will be invited to the June meeting to be recognized and to receive their \$25 gift cards.

Joseph Carey from the Planning Board requested Shade Tree Commission input regarding 25 North Franklin Turnpike, the Board of Education property. The Shade Tree recommendations including Norway spruces, arborvitae, and spirea were accepted.

NEW BUSINESS-None

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Bob Zimmerman, 11 Knollwood Drive, was present to discuss some of the trees on his property. Mr. McMahan will do an inspection of the trees in questions and determine what should be done.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Schumacher, and carried unanimously.

