

CLOSTER SHADE TREE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MAY 13, 2013 MEETING

Present: Nils Abate, George Futterknecht, Anthony Ix, John Kashwick,
Anthony Lupardi, Sr., and Louise Ungar, Members; and Leslie Weatherly,
Coordinator

Absent: Todd Bradbury, Patricia Ix and Keith Scholz

Guest: Bill Fuchs

George opened the meeting with the Public Meetings Statement. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Roll Call taken.

The minutes of the April 8th meeting were approved as presented.

Meeting Opened to the Public:

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Correspondence:

A letter was received from the Arbor Day Foundation stating Closter achieved Tree City USA recognition for 2012, the 13th year, as well as a copy of a letter of congratulations to Mayor Sophie Heymann.

A letter had been sent to Ms. Patricia Rhodes at 4 Smith Street, about the tree in front of her house. She was granted permission to have the tree removed at her own expense, if desired.

Old Business:

Louise had responded in the affirmative to the letter from Ken Hoffman, Emerson Shade Tree Commission, regarding a purposed joint meeting in the summer months. We await further information.

Tony reported trees were planted at the schools in honor of Arbor Day. Nils, Tony and the Mayor attended the ceremonies at Tenakill School where a Honey Locust tree was planted and Hillside School where a Pink Dogwood was planted. Pictures of the events were sent to the local newspapers.

Leslie stated the Purchase Order for the 5 Year Forestry Management Plan had been sent to Paul Cowie on April 11th. Nils will be the designated contact person in the future.

Regarding the street tree plantings at Ruckman Park, a small group met at the park and discussed removing most of the Pear trees that are there and replacing them with a mixture of other species of trees. There are twenty-one trees involved and it was suggested that we could possibly apply for a grant for this. The question was asked should we work on the problem with the grates in the downtown area? Perhaps this could be part of the grant. We will look into pursuing this project.

After discussion, M/S/C we apply for a grant for sidewalk maintenance in the amount of \$20,000.00 (21 trees at \$250.00 each plus grinding of 18 pear tree stumps.) It was noted that more trees must be taken down (15, 18). George will be working on an outline of the scope of this work.

Bill Fuchs has some CEU's he is willing to give to the commission. It was noted another person is also needed to attend a class.

It was stated a chairman is needed for the tree planting to be done. Plans should be finalized at the July meeting. Mrs. Maddaloni of 163 Closter Dock Road needs a tree. District #2 will be planted and District #5 will have trimming and maintenance work done this year.

Leslie informs us the "Sandy" storm stumps have been put on the list of tree work to be done. She also distributed a list of trees to be inspected. Any additional trees should be reported to her.

There was no other Old Business.

New Business:

The Closter Chamber of Commerce runs a Farmer's Market each Sunday. They will hold a special program on June 2nd from 9:00 to 2:00pm. Are we interested in participating in this?

The question was asked do we want to do anything at Pollock Square Park on Closter Dock and Piermont Roads this year? Two trees are dead and should be taken down.

Trees at the 911 Memorial Park should be looked at.

George calls attention to two bills in the Shade Tree Bulletin, A3654 and A3726.

There being no further business, M/S/C the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louise G. Ungar".

Louise G. Ungar, Secretary