

THE HOBOKEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION

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Hoboken, New Jersey 07030
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DAWN ZIMMER
Mayor



Diana Davis, Chairwoman
Peter Bakarich, III, Commissioner
Matt Condon, Commissioner
Peter Cossio, Commissioner
Amy Sommer, Commissioner
Ken Missbrenner, 1st Alternate

Minutes of the October 13, 2016 Shade Tree Commission Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:06p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were: Commissioner Peter Bakarich, Commissioner Condon, Commissioner Cossio, Commissioner Sommer and Chairwoman Diana Davis.

Absent: 1st Alternate, Ken Missbrenner and Chairwoman Diana Davis.

Also present Daisy Amado, Commission Secretary.

AGENDA - **TAKEN OUT OF ORDER BY THE CHAIRWOMAN**

1. Presentation by Janet Broughton, Landscape Designer at Starr Whitehouse in connection to the Southwest Park project

Handout was given to the Commission by Ms. Broughton on proposed park plan, southwest block 12 park, trees at Paterson Triangle along with a Consultation Report from M&A Tree Service. Ms. Broughton advised the Commission that the Arborist gave two recommendations in his report. Arborist's first recommendation: to remove and replace all four trees which are highly stressed due to poor maintenance, storm damage, limited root space, etc. He would provide a list of possible replacement trees after soil testing. Second recommendation: remove only the two smaller trees which are too close to the bus stop area and in very poor health. This would provide more root space, light, moisture and air flow to the two older mature trees. Ms. Broughton stated if all trees are removed there would be a need to re-design. Designing the triangle and planting new trees was not in the original project budget and would result in project overages. Discussion at length ensued amongst Commission members and landscape designer. Chairwoman did ask landscape designer to come back to the Commission if any changes occur.

Commissioner Bakarich made a motion to approve the removal of the two smaller trees with a second from Commissioner Condon and the motion carried with three members present in favor.

2. Approval of the minutes of the September 12, 2016 meeting

Commissioner Sommer made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Cossio seconded and the motion carried with all members present in favor.

3. Chair's Report

- Chairwoman asked Commissioners to respond to emails within 48 hours in connection to attendance at meetings.

- 128 Jackson Street – tree removed but was not authorized. Tree that was removed was a Tree of Heaven, a very invasive tree already growing in multiple locations on that street. Ken Missbrenner recommended either Zelkova or a Chinese Elm since neither has a strong central leader which would be less of a problem with the overhead lines.
- 1007 Bloomfield – resident removed dead tree.
- 523 Jefferson – resident notified Chairwoman of a dead tree in front of property. Chairwoman notified management, this is still pending a call back.
- Tea Building Ash Trees – removed all trees without notification to the Commission. The State wanted to take samples for testing. Management company wanted to plant seven Zelkovas. Ken Missbrenner's recommendations were: the tree they are recommending is a beautiful tree and there are many of them planted throughout Hoboken. He has concerns with the choice, such as: these trees get big. Since all trees along the north side of the Tea Building have been topped and severely pruned to protect the owner's views, he would not plant Zelkovas as they eventually grow big and block views. Ken recommends replacing the Ash Trees with Prunus x Yedoensis – Yoshino Cherry as they do not get big and have beautiful white flowers in the Spring. He also recommends tree pits be expanded, tree pit guards installed and wood chip mulch should be used. Chairwoman asked Commissioners if they all agree with Ken's recommendations – and they agreed.
- 60 Monroe – healthy tree had to be removed as Management company wanted to remove as tree was leaning and buckling sidewalk. Chairwoman gave them permission. Ken Missbrenner recommendation: Little Leaf Linden or Ginkgo Biloba

AGENDA OUT OF ORDER

4. Recommendations on Plantings in the Bump Outs at the Southwest Corner of First and Bloomfield

Ken Missbrenner took a look at this and advised this is a tough site as it is under a large shade tree with no guards around it and in front of a bar. Per Ken, no matter what gets planted here it will get trashed without a guardrail or something around it. Ken's recommendations are: install permeable paving to allow the storm water to percolate into the ground and put a few large pots with plants on top of it. They should use the money to plant a large tree in the empty tree pit on the south east side of the intersection. It is a perfect spot for a large species. There is currently a sprouting stump there that should be removed. Ken also recommended that should the City really want to put something in the planter for the winter, they should consider using ornamental cabbage/kale along with the mums. The spruces could be nice as well but keep in mind that all of these plants are going to get ruined and not look well. Everything should be planted very closely together. The dying Little Bluestem that is currently in the planter should be cleaned out and some mulch should be put down and leave it for the winter. Also, there is another empty planting bed at the southwest corner on First Street that has more potential. It will need protection from the bar patrons and neighborhood dogs but that would be a great spot for a Redbud tree (green foliage, not red/purple).

Commissioner Sommer made a motion to approve Ken Missbrenner's recommendations and Commissioner Condon seconded and the motion carried with all members present in favor.

Chair's Report (continued)

- 319 Washington Street - Natasi Design was informed by Planning Board to install grate around tree but advised they should check with Commission first. Chairwoman sent a letter advising they did not need a grate as there presently exists a tree guard rail; however, chair requested they protect the tree during demolition and throughout construction. Architect agreed.
- Adams Street Skating Rink – project done and trees are in.
- 600 Newark Street – project completed but could not get certification until trees were planted. Architect had selected tree species but landscaper was unable to supply the requested trees. Ken Missbrenner went out to the site and recommended the following trees: Cercidiphyllum Japonicum – Katsura Tree; Carpinus Betulus – European Hornbeam; Quercus Phellos – Willow Oak; and Acer Rubrum – Red Maple only as a last resort. Construction folks agreed with one of Ken's recommendations and six new trees are being planted in that area.
- Tree Planting – third or fourth week of October everything will be done. Chairwoman requested Commissioner walk around and inspect and Commissioner Cossio volunteered.

Commissioners inquired as to badges/IDs they are supposed to receive from City so they may identify themselves when walking around and inspecting.

Commissioner Cossio mentioned a tree removed at 208 10th Street and discussion ensued.

5. Revisions to Tree Planting Forms – Commissioner Condon

Commissioner Condon advised he sent forms to all Commissioners for review on October 3. Discussion some members did not receive; was sent as a google invite; Commissioners looking at their emails; some Commissioners did not review as email was not received directly from Matt Condon. Chairwoman asked if both forms may be converted into one somehow (the form requesting the tree and the form where requestor includes check). Commissioner Condon stated at the moment there is no link and we need to get that back up and running. Commissioners will review forms and Commission will revisit at the November meeting.

6. 11th Street Island between Washington and Hudson

Sewerage Authority damaged a tree and Chairwoman has been consulting with them since July, when the tree was hit by one of their trucks. Sewerage Authority agreed to redesign and replant island. Sewerage Authority submitted plans to Chairwoman. Commissioner Ken Missbrenner made revisions to the trees the Sewerage Authority was recommending. Discussion ensued and Commissioners reviewed design. Chairwoman very pleased Sewerage Authority agreed to replant, etc. and will advise them that the Commission approves design.

7. 133 Monroe – Commissioner Sommer

Commissioner Sommer mentioned corner of Monroe and Second, no existing trees, overhead wires on both streets. Plans involve four proposed street trees. Commissioner Sommer recommends the following: larger tree pits where sidewalk conditions permit; provide additional soil volume and root space for the tree; provide better conditions for long term survival. Tree grates can be tripping hazards and can eventually girdle tree trunks. Commissioner Sommer further recommended: provide larger tree pits, 4' x 8' minimum and no use of tree grates.

Discussion ensued while looking at plan. Commissioners verbally agreed with Commissioner Sommer's recommendations, however no official vote was taken.

8. Public Comments (limited to five minutes per person)

No members of the public appeared before the Commission.

9. New Business

- Commission Secretary inquired (on behalf of Director Leo Pellegrini) as to update to Pier A trees. Chairwoman advised she has reached out to Paul Cowie and we are waiting for him to get back to us. Chairwoman discussed how trees on Pier A along the walkway are all dead and Mr. Cowie will recommend someone and sample why so many trees are dead. These trees are from the early 90s but they need to come down soon.
- Willow Avenue many trees are dead. As it is a county road, Chairwoman will speak with the county.
- Resident emailed chairwoman two specific trees be trimmed, Chairwoman showed photos, discussion, and Chairwoman will email him back advising we will address it.
- Discussion as to financing for maintenance of trees.
- Commissioners Sommer and Missbrenner, Chairwoman and Hoboken Environmental Services Employee, James Davis will all be going to Atlantic City to attend the NJ Shade Tree Conference. The credits received at the conference will fulfill state requirements in order to obtain our Shade Tree Status.
- Commissioner Missbrenner attending workshop on Saturday.

Motion to close the meeting was made by Commissioner Condon and seconded by Commissioner Bakarich and all members present were in favor.

Meeting concluded at 8:30p.m.



CITY OF HOBOKEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION

94 Washington Street, Hoboken, New Jersey 07030

RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------------|
| Application No.: | <u>HOP-15-28</u> | Review Date: | _____ | Plan Date: | <u>08/10/16</u> |
| Property Address: | <u>133 Monroe Street</u> | Block: | <u>28</u> | Lot(s): | <u>17</u> |

WHEREAS, the City of Hoboken Shade Tree Commission has jurisdiction to act upon the above referenced application pursuant to §62-6 et. seq. of the Municipal Code of the City of Hoboken; and

WHEREAS, the above noted application was received, deemed complete, and reviewed by the City of Hoboken Shade Tree Commission, assembled in public session on Date: 10/13/16 where the applicant and any other interested persons were heard; and

WHEREAS, this application is before the City of Hoboken Shade Tree Commission for purposes of providing:

- A report and recommendations to the Administrative Officer;
- A report and recommendations to the Planning Board; and/or
- A report and recommendations to the Zoning Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City of Hoboken Shade Tree Commission that the above application is recommended for approval as submitted, subject to the conditions, if any set forth herein.

SCOPE OF WORK:

(4) proposed street trees

CONDITIONS: The City of Hoboken Shade Tree Commission recommends the following as conditions of this approval.

Provide larger tree pits, 4' x 8' min.

Do not use tree grates.

RECOMMENDATIONS: The City of Hoboken Shade Tree Commission has made its recommendations for the following reasons.

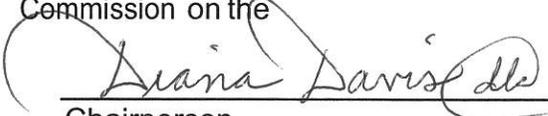
Larger tree pits, where sidewalk conditions permit it, provide additional soil volume and root space for the tree and provide better conditions for long term survival.

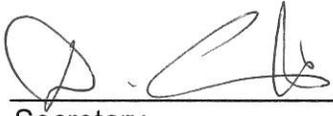
Tree grates can be tripping hazards and can eventually girdle tree trunks.

A motion was made by Commissioner _____ and seconded by Commissioner _____ to approve the application with the modifications and conditions set forth above. Roll call vote:

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|----------------------|--|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Comm. Peter Bakarich | | Comm. Amy Sommer | | | | | |
| Comm. Matt Condon | | Chairwoman Diana Davis | | ALL COMMISSIONERS AGREED VERBALLY | | | |
| Comm. Peter Cossio | | | | | | | |

This document is hereby certified as a true copy of a resolution adopted by the City of Hoboken Shade Tree Commission on the


Chairperson


Secretary