

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

The regular meeting of the Ramsey Shade Tree Commission was called to order by Mr. Melso at 8:00 p.m., Thursday, July 18, 2019. Also present were Mr. Beltramini, Mr. Englishman, Ms. Geist, Mr. Martone, Mr. McMahon, Mr. Schumacher, Commission members, Mr. Geist, Board Attorney, and Mr. Trouf, Coordinator. Mr. Gubala, Mr. Rutkowski, Mr. Kilman, Council Liaison, and Mrs. Dey, Secretary, 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. Beltramini, seconded by Mr. Martone, the minutes of the June 20, 2019 meeting were unanimously accepted as received.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Martone observed that the dead trees at the ramp on to Route 17S still have not been taken care of. Mr. Trouf spoke to a worker at the site who indicated that they would spray and trim. It appears that they only sprayed. He sent a follow-up e-mail to the Department of Transportation.

COMMUNICATIONS

Minutes-
Board of Adjustment-April 17, 2019
Planning Board-June 18, 2019

Also received and filed were:

1. Board of Adjustment resolutions from the April 17, 2019 meeting
2. Planning Board resolutions from the June 18, 2019 meeting

TREE REMOVAL PERMIT HEARING-None

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. Since there are some lighting decisions which need to be made, the landscape plan has been put on hold. Mr. Beltramini noted that a plant substitution has been made. Winter gem boxwood will be planted instead of Nellie Stevens holly.

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

This plan will be continued until construction is complete. Mr. McMahon will visit the site. Some planting has already begun.

The Store, 160 East Main Street

Anthony DiBenedetto, 1152 Sycamore Lane, Mahwah was present to discuss the landscaping at The Store. The site will be cleaned up and all necessary trimming will be done. Plantings are missing and everything will be filled in appropriately. Thirty-six new perennials will be planted, and the grounds will be mulched. The planting will be done in September when it will be cooler. Eventually the parking lot will be replaced. At that time, sprinklers will be installed. The trees in the front are borough trees. Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Schumacher, the plan as presented 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			

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. Mr. Melso noted that the houses have not been sold.

Ramsey Square, 1300 Route 17

Michael Tode, 325 Godwin Avenue, Midland Park, the landscape contractor for the site, had previously presented the updated plans for the property. No planting will be done until September. At the June meeting, the landscape plan had been unanimously approved, subject to a walk-through with Mr. Tode and a Shade Tree Commissioner. Ms. Geist asked who was responsible for the area of the property off Franklin Turnpike by the guardrail. Mr. Trouf will find out if the county is responsible.

LANDSCAPING PLAN REVIEW**McDonald's, 846 Route 17N, Block 4702, Lot 2**

All of the stone needs to be removed and replaced with dark mulch. Mr. Trouf sent a letter regarding the mulch. Mr. Melso spoke with a McDonald's representative who was going to attend the meeting. She had indicated that the stones will be replaced eventually. Mr. Trouf was asked to send a second letter.

Ramsey Lumber, 575 Island Road

Regarding the Ramsey Lumber site, the lumber yard will be re-opening; Newcastle Builders will be leasing the property. There is no use change. The landscape plan on file is from 2009/2010. Mr. Beltramini walked the site with representatives from Newcastle and Conklin Associates as well as Lily and her husband who live on Ferguson Place. There is a lot of dead material which will need to be removed. The proposed fence might be pushed back so that no trees are removed, an issue of concern to the Ferguson Place neighbors. No dumping of debris at the end of the street will be allowed.

50 South Franklin Turnpike

A letter had been sent since trees were removed and some landscaping is being done. At the May meeting, John Angamarca of Woodland Trees, reported that 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. There is irrigation on the site which will need to be salvaged.

Additionally, the sidewalk in the front will be changed; a permit is needed. Once the sidewalk is in, a decision about what to plant on the site will be made.

TD Bank, 1100 Lake Street

Mr. Trouf provided Mr. Gubala with the name of the property manager; no upkeep of the property is being done.

125 Lakeside Drive/Ramsey Country Club

Richard Reimer, the property owner at 125 Lakeside Drive, and Aurelian Anghelusi, the general manager of the Ramsey Golf and Country Club, were present. At the June meeting, Mr. Reimer had drawings from Pete Proulx Landscaping, Inc., Tuxedo Park, New York. That landscaping plan includes three dogwoods, six Green Giant arborvitae, and seven Norway spruce. He indicated that he would maintain the plantings. The country club would supply the irrigation. Mr. Anghelusi indicated that the country club would like to work with the Reimers as a good neighbor. He noted that the country club's commercial property was there when the Reimers moved in. It was several years ago that the Board of Adjustment had determined that the Shade Tree Commission should make the final decision about the screening buffer between the properties, the Reimer property at 125 Lakeside Drive and the maintenance area of the Ramsey Country Club. In 2013/2014, the country club presented plans for expansion of the commercial property. They did the required plantings in 2014 but they died. They again planted what was required but those plantings also died. A black walnut tree has been removed from the Reimer property. The stump does need to be ground; surrounding soil needs to be removed and replaced. That may help with a third planting. It was suggested that the Reimer landscape plan be shown to the country club's landscaper. The fence on the country club's property is in stable condition but a fence is a zoning issue. Mr. Anghelusi will discuss the issue with the country club's board; hopefully they can work something out with the Reimers so both parties can return in August with a plan which is mutually acceptable. The river birch tree will be transplanted in the spring.

24 Grant Street

Since the project has not yet gone before the Planning Board, it is not ready to be looked at by the Shade Tree Commission.

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. The Commissioners were reminded to keep up with their residential inspections since everything is currently up to date.

Work order #5---

12 Cleveland Street (corner of New Street)-remove one dead small borough tree

34 Darlington Avenue-maple in the right-of-way needs to be pruned, especially branches going toward the house

63 Manor Drive-elevate one pin oak, marked with red dash

46 Joshua Drive-two trees marked for dead wood removal

5 Amanda Court-trim out dead wood

74 Arlena Terrace-remove dead tree

90 Grove Street-dead tree marked at curb

45 Hart Street-trim dead wood

161 West Crescent Avenue-corner of West Oak Street, branches in the lower wires

58 Tulip Street-two trees marked for trimming

25 Rosewood Court-two trees marked for trimming

205 North Franklin Turnpike-tree hanging over the road marked to be trimmed

Train Station-trim branches blocking the light

New England Drive-elevate and remove dead wood on entire street

9 New England Drive-two marked with X

16 New England Drive-one marked with X

19 New England Drive-one marked with X

42 New Street-elevate and shape two trees

57 New England Drive-trim two trees on East Crescent Avenue so resident can see existing driveway

9 Walnut Street-elevate and trim dead wood on Spruce Street side

96 East Crescent Avenue-remove dead wood

Work order #6---

1 Gertzen Road-drop dead tree behind house on property

15 Farmington Court-remove maple rotted at base, grind stump

36 Joshua Drive-remove two trees

299 Momar Drive-elevate and prune dead branches on marked trees

45 Arch Street-two ash trees will be removed

COMMERCIAL SITE INSPECTIONS

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

The metal grate is sticking up around one of the Main Street trees on the Pietro's side of the street. It is a hazard which needs to be fixed.

The tree inventories are necessary for the 213 Grove Street and the 425 Island Road projects.

The "Green Thumb" award winners will be decided upon shortly.

There is an issue with the walkway at Finch Park. The vines are not poison ivy.

OLD BUSINESS

21 Lakeview Terrace

At the June meeting, Lorraine Gardenier, 21 Lakeview Terrace, was present to discuss the two pin oaks on her property, both of which are borough trees, which she would like removed. Kris Hasbrouck, the borough's arborist, visited the site. His report was discussed at length. Hand removal of the roots would cost approximately \$500. Upon motion by Mr. Beltramini, seconded by Mr. Martone, and approved unanimously, no

trees will be removed but the surface roots effected by the driveway can be removed by hand, not by backhoe, and the surface roots for the second tree can be similarly removed. The status of the trees will be monitored for decline. Mr. Trouf will contact her regarding the Commission's decision.

	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			

NEW BUSINESS

Since the Commissioners would like to see the sites before they vote on them, they want the plans ten days before the meeting. If plans are not received within that firm timeframe, they will not be put on the agenda.

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 9:13 p.m. upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. McMahon, and carried unanimously.

