

**RAMSEY SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Ramsey Shade Tree Commission was called to order by Mr. Melso at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, October 20, 2022. Also present were Mr. Beltramini, Mr. Englishman, Ms. Geist, Mr. Martone, Mr. McMahon, Mr. Rutkowski, Commission members, Mr. Geist, Board Attorney, Ms. Cusick, Council Liaison, Mr. Trouf, Coordinator, and Mrs. Dey, Secretary. Mr. Gubala and Mr. Schumacher 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 Thursday, December 23, 2021 and the RIDGEWOOD NEWS on Friday, December 24, 2021.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Melso led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Beltramini, the minutes of the September 15, 2022 meeting were unanimously accepted as received.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. McMahon reminded the Commissioners to e-mail him regarding ash trees to be added to the list he has compiled so that the special bid can be completed.

He also shared information about trees to be removed on Center Street and Kelleher Avenue. No permits are needed since less than six trees will be removed. The contractor will replant trees.

Mr. Melso commented upon the field trip with Colin Milde, the borough's arborist, "a real find for the borough." Five Commissioners attended, earning two credits each, a total of ten credits. Mr. Trouf was asked to check that the credits have been submitted. Mr. Milde also earned two credits.

Mr., Melso noted that there are dead trees at Pep Boys. The arborvitae are either dead or dying. An Armstrong maple is also dead. There is irrigation on the site, but it is not known if it was turned on. Some of the plantings have not been mulched. It was assumed that Dr. Voskian is responsible.

**COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS**

Ms. Cusick asked if the order of business could be modified so that any presentations can be completed before the meeting continues. Upon motion by Mr. McMahon, seconded by Mr. Beltramini, the requested change was unanimously approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Board of Adjustment minutes-September 21, 2022

Planning Board minutes-September 20, 2022

**TREE REMOVAL APPLICATIONS****216 Darlington Avenue (Green Acres)**

Sean Menge was present to request the removal of four trees from adjacent Green Acres. Since no Commissioners had walked the property, no approval for the tree removal was issued. Mr. Menge was asked to mark the trees which he would like taken down.

**SITE PLAN REVIEW**-None

**TREE REMOVAL PERMIT VIOLATIONS**-None

**LANDSCAPING PLAN REVIEW****The Wash Club, 506 Route 17, Block 5102, Lot 5**

Scott Koenig of Lapatka Associates appeared on behalf of the applicant to present the revised landscape plan. The site continues to be cleaned up. He distributed the landscape sketch which showed trees to be removed and trees to remain. The sketch also showed the proposed locations of boxwood and columnar zelkova. There is a utility pole which needs the vegetation on it removed. Irrigation will be put in. Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Beltramini, the revised plan (revision dates-9/27/2022, 9/30/2022, 10/6/2022) was unanimously accepted. A temporary CO will be necessary since planting will take place in the spring and a December/January CO is sought.

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

Upon motion by Mr. Martone, seconded by Mr. Beltramini, and approved unanimously, the meeting moved into closed session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss a reasonable restitution amount.

### **RESIDENTIAL SITE INSPECTIONS**

All trees must be marked and there must be a decision about what to do with the stumps. Mr. Trouf began work order #1 for 2023. He also included the tree work which is being done by DPW and a list of stump grinding. Work order #7 is being worked on.

Work Order #7

**24 Fox Hollow Court (Green Acres)**-The tree will be dropped; the waterflow cannot be blocked.

DPW tree work 2022 #3

**311 Norman Drive (Nottingham Road side)**-The low hanging branches over the street will be trimmed.

**Ramsey Library, Wyckoff Avenue**-Four holly trees and three catalpa trees will be removed.

**277 Wyckoff Avenue**-Two trees will be elevated.

**42 Oxford Court**-Three trees will be removed; one tree will be elevated.

**260 East Main Street**-The tree will be elevated.

2023 Work order #1

**32 High Street**-Two trees will be trimmed and shaped.

**94 Oak Ridge Road**-The tree will be removed.

**4 Lillian Court**-The triple trunk tree will be removed.

**119 Arch Street (Finch Street side)**-The tree will be removed.

**129 Ramview Avenue**-The tree will be removed.

**40 High Street**-The tree will be removed.

**42 Oxford Court**-Three trees will be removed; one tree will be elevated.

**15 Lillian Court**-One tree will be removed; dead wood will be removed from two other trees.

**8 Briarcliff Court**-Four trees will be elevated.

**10 and 26 Harlind Terrace**-One tree will be elevated at each location.

**310 Canterbury Drive**-The tree will be removed.

**245 Shadyside Road**-The tree will be removed.

**10 Buckingham Drive**-Branches from two trees will be trimmed from the wires.

**244 Myrtle Avenue**-The double trunk ash tree will be removed.

**45 Center Street**-The tree will be removed.

**101 Mayfair Drive**-The tree will be removed.

Grind stumps-2023

**2 Mayfair Drive**

**94 Oak Ridge Road**

**139 Sherwood Drive**

**6 Donna Court**

**101 Broad Street**  
**16 Momar Drive**  
**11 Column Court**  
**4 Lillian Court**  
**119 Arch Street**  
**129 Ramview Avenue**  
**40 High Street**  
**310 Canterbury Drive**  
**245 Shadyside Road**  
**95 Elm Avenue**  
**244 Myrtle Avenue**  
**45 Center Street**  
**101 Mayfair Drive**

#### **COMMERCIAL SITE INSPECTIONS**

Mr. Mello reminded the Commissioners to keep their eyes open for any issues at the various commercial sites within their zones.

Regarding **69, 87, and 99 Spring Street**, Mr. Jaworski, Mr. Latincics, and Mr. Minervini were present to discuss a reasonable restitution amount for the removal of the thirty-six trees without any permits as well as the re-vegetation plan. Mr. Jaworski offered a contribution in the amount of \$6,000 for the removal of the trees. The Commissioners considered the offer during closed session. Mr. Latincics presented the restoration plan which will be coordinated with the future plan. Sixty-nine trees will be planted in a regular staggered pattern. As much as possible, the plantings will be native and indigenous. An analysis of the soil will be done. Submission of a landscape plan is targeted for January. Mr. McMahon responded to the October 11th letter, which questioned what foundation plantings are missing from the approved landscape plan. Based upon Mr. McMahon's inspection, everything is spot on. Mr. Trouf is to be notified when the required work is done. Regarding the Volvo project, they had located the best person to assist them, an arborist with the Department of Transportation. There have been no recent updates and there is no Plan B.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Trouf reminded the Commissioners that they need to respond to residents more quickly. Mr. Martone suggested that a week at the most is a reasonable amount of time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was a discussion about the burlap on newly-planted trees, whether it should be opened up upon planting or left intact for a year. Additionally, there was a question about why the training with Mr. Milde was done at Campgaw rather than in Ramsey. Next time it will be done in Ramsey.

A resident on Pine Tree Road contacted the Shade Tree Commission regarding tree work which is done by Orange & Rockland. They will be returning to Ramsey on Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Trouf's contact is Kate Wysokowski. He continues to bring borough trees to her attention. Mr. Melso invited her to a Shade Tree Commission meeting. She, in turn, invited Commissioners to visit O&R's offices.

**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 9:08 p.m. upon motion by Mr. Beltramini, seconded by Mr. Martone, and carried unanimously.

