

**SHADE TREE COMMISSION
Demarest Borough Hall
7:00PM**

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

July 2, 2024

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Linda Cetta opened the meeting at 7:05 pm with the following announcement: PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING: The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey have been satisfied by the inclusion of the date, time and place of this regular meeting and notice of regular meeting was posted at Borough Hall, was mailed to The Star Ledger and The Record and was filed with the Borough Clerk of the Borough of Demarest.

1. Roll Call: Chair: Linda Cetta, Maureen Neville, Faye Sloan Dimitri Gatanas. Absent: Ronnie Friedman Council Liaison Adam Collins

2. Approval of minutes: Motion to approve March 2, 2024, Minutes, 1st Maureen Neville, 2nd Faye Sloan

3. Old Business: Duck Pond, 17 trees removed by paid for by Open Space. 17 Trees left all need to be pruned and Commission is hoping Open Space pays for the project. Shade Tree Commission is an independent Commission and can make their own decisions without approval from Mayor and Council. Hazardous trees on the removal list will be monitored and an updated list will be presented at the next meeting to see which trees are remaining and their condition.

4. New Business: Operating budget was granted in the amount of \$33,000.00 once the budget was passed. Shade Tree Trust account, according to Chair Linda Cetta \$21,875.00. The budget money is different than the CFO's calculations. The Commission will decide how to spend the remainder of the money and prioritize the most hazardous trees for removal. Two members need to attend the conference in Atlantic City on October 18, 2024, to receive CEU's. Disputes regarding what the Trust can be utilized for. The Commission held a vote to decide what can be spent between the Budget and the Trust Fund. As an independent Commission, the Demarest Shade Tree Commission authorizes the chair or his/her/their designee to determine the source of funds, either the operating budget or the trust fund account, to be used in fulfilling the Commission's mandates. If funds need to be allocated for an appropriate expense and are to be taken from the trust fund, quotes and bids will be obtained when needed, a purchase order will be created, the order will be signed by the Chair or the designee, it will be sent to the CFO

for processing. When the work is completed, the PO is returned and duly authorized for payment by the chair/designee and returned to the CFO whose office will issue the check. At this time, the recording for the Shade Trees meeting stopped, no further notes were supplied.

5. Open to the Public: Not available.

6. Adjournment: Not available.

Respectfully Submitted, Lee Campbell Shade Tree Secretary