

THE MILFORD TREE COMMISSION

Minutes of the September 11, 2006 Meeting

A. ROLL CALL

- Commission Members Present: Stephen Wing, Chairman
Kate Orecchio, Vice Chairman
Tammy Jorgensen, Member
- Liaison to Planning and Zoning: Jeanne Cervin
- Also Present: Richard Tomasco, Tree Warden
Theresa Nickols, Recording Secretary
- Commission Members Not Present: Mary Ludwig
John Westerman

B. CALL TO ORDER

- Chairman Wing called the meeting to order at 7:18 P.M.

C. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 12, 2006 REGULAR MEETING

- T. Jorgensen noted that the minutes incorrectly reflected her presence at the meeting.
- It was noted that the spelling of the new Tree Warden's last name is T-O-M-A-S-C-O.
- Other small corrections were made to the minutes and discussed among the members.
- K. Orecchio moved to accept the minutes, T. Jorgensen seconded the motion, the committee voted and the motion was carried unanimously.

D. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- Chairman Wing reported that the Commission has spent \$122.50 so far this fiscal year.

E. TREE WARDEN STATUS PART I AND REPORT FROM NEW TREE WARDEN

- Chairman Wing introduced Rich Tomasco as the new Tree Warden and welcomed him to the meeting.
- R. Tomasco reported that trees were tagged at 30 Rogers Avenue.
- R. Tomasco reported that a few trees have no life left, that Milford lost a lot of trees after the storm and a lot of the trees have decay in their bases.
- R. Tomasco introduced the idea of doing plantings on the strips along Robert Treat Parkway.

- With regard to 30 Rogers Avenue, R. Tomasco further reported that he sent Peter DiPetro a letter but it wasn't sent by registered mail. R. Tomasco noted that he would resend the letter to Peter DiPetro by registered mail.
- R. Tomasco noted that he would see Marilyn Lipton (the Milford City Attorney).
- R. Tomasco reported that a representative from Lewis Tree Service said "at his request – too the tree down."
- R. Tomasco noted that the nursery has some plantings if the Commission wanted to plant something there, it was a city tree that was removed, although it was tight to the wires.
- Chairman Wing noted that it was a public tree according to the site plan.
- K. Orecchio commented that the last time this was done, the Mayor said we would prosecute to the fullest extent, which would be the amount of the money of the tree.

F. REPORT ON TREE(S) AT BAYVIEW DRIVE / ORLAND STREET EXTENSION

- K. Orecchio reported that she asked a girl in Engineering about the situation and that Engineering is going to determine if it was a public or private tree.
- R. Tomasco inquired about the situation.
- K. Orecchio explained that a dentist, Dr. Cooposie, cut down a tree, the police were called and the last ruling was that it was not a public tree (it was a private tree).

G. WILDEMER BEACH TREES / UNA GLENNON

- K. Orecchio reported that there was no further development.
- K. Orecchio asked if the City (Tree Warden) was ready to plant.
- R. Tomasco noted that he just needs 3 or 4 more days and he can then send a crew out to do the work.
- Chairman Wing introduced the subject of where to buy the trees from.
- A discussion ensued among the members regarding the planting site and potential tree species for the slated plantings.
- A discussion ensued among the members regarding the stumps and whether they needed to be grinded, or have they been or have they not been grinded yet.
- Chairman Wing inquired as to the texture of the soil.
- K. Orecchio noted that the soil is lush and that the site might need something salt resistant.
- Chairman Wing assigned the task of pre-shopping for something salt resistant to K. Orecchio and noted that she can try Planter's Choice where you can see its whole inventory online.

H. TREE WARDEN STATUS PART II

- Chairman Wing asked the new Tree Warden what the best form of communication would be, R. Tomasco replied and told the Commission to e-mail Kelly.
- K. Orecchio asked R. Tomasco if he could notify the Commission when his office posts a tree.
- R. Tomasco explained that it is possible yet burdensome.

I. MEMORIAL TREES

- No report.

J. GRANTS / LEGACY ARBORETUM

- Chairman Wing announced that Parks and Rec approved the plan.
- Chairman Wing reported that soon money will be able to be spent to buy labels and plant donated trees.
- Chairman Wing noted that this is a "major milestone."
- T. Jorgensen noted that Mike Wilcock has a potted yellow magnolia that needs to be planted soon, before it gets root bound.

K. TREE INVENTORY / MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Chairman Wing asked R. Tomasco if he was aware of the Emergency Tree Management Plan.
- R. Tomasco replied that he was not familiar with the plan.
- Chairman Wing gave history of plan and said that there was a seminar in the beginning of the summer for the purpose of developing and using a way of doing damage assessment after bad storms, which would be based on sampling (2% or approximately 400 trees).
- Chairman Wing noted that the Fire Chief is the Director of Emergency Management, and that the Tree Warden should be in the loop.
- K. Orecchio noted that the meeting date is unknown yet and that the plan includes any tree that can damage public property, and that within 12 hours of the storm the same 400 trees would be looked at.
- Chairman Wing noted that FEMA extrapolates that all the trees are similar.
- Chairman Wing announced that he will ask M. Ludwig to be conduit of information for the Tree Warden.

L. TREE NURSERY

- A discussion of the status of the tree nursery ensued among the members and all concluded that the nursery looks good.
- Chairman Wing commented that Irwin Langewisch was the Commission's point person.
- R. Tomasco noted that Irwin Langewisch has a lot of experience and is like a mentor.
- Chairman Wing and R. Tomasco concluded that R. Tomasco will resume the position of point person with the Public Works Department.

M. GREENING ON THE POST ROAD

- K. Orecchio reported that Planning and Zoning has voted and agreed to accept money from Westfield Shopping Center and that the Mayor will put it on the agenda for the Board of Alderman.
- K. Orecchio notes that once all that is done, the planting can start.
- Chairman Wing noted that at some future time the Commission will familiarize R. Tomasco with the plans.

- K. Orecchio reported that the second phase is on hold because the DOT hasn't set up plans yet.
- Chairman Wing asked K. Orecchio to check with Tom Ivers to see what happens with grant.

N. TREE ORDINANCE

- K. Orecchio reported that Dave Sulkis said must go to state legislature.
- A discussion ensued among the members regarding open space, sidewalk and tree funds.

O. EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

- R. Tomasco reported that he will go to Cedar Hill Cemetery

P. INTERAGENCY REVIEW MATTERS

- K. Orecchio reported on the following:
 1. Gulf Street Subdivision; K. Orecchio showed plans and discussed existing and proposed trees; Discussed regulations and requirements as to whether there has to be trees; Chairman Wing noted that the Commission can make recommendations.
 2. Bridgeport Avenue; K. Orecchio reported the project was done today and discussed existing trees that are in poor condition and will come down; Also discussed proposed selection of trees and plan.
 3. Trumbull and Seaside Avenues; K. Orecchio reported that there will be two house knocked down and re-built and that there are no street trees.

Q. CONCLUSION OF MEETING

- All other matters were tabled.
- K. Orecchio moved to adjourn the meeting, T. Jorgensen seconded the motion, the committee voted and the motion was carried unanimously.
- The September 11, 2006 meeting of The Milford Tree Commission was adjourned at 8:17 P.M.

The minutes of the meeting of The Milford Tree Commission held September 11, 2006 are respectfully submitted,

By: THERESA ROSE NICKOLS
Recording Secretary