

TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE

P.O. Box 6006
Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648

Department of Community Development
609-844-7076

MINUTES

Lawrence Township Shade Tree Advisory Committee

November 23, 2009

Members Present: Carmine Di Sanzo, Rosemarie Clark, Alvin Geser, and Councilman Michael Powers.
Members Absent: Edward Sproles and Doris Weisberg.
Others Present: Andrew Link, Staff Liaison

Chairman Di Sanzo convened the meeting at 7:30 PM.

- The October minutes were approved.
- Councilman Powers said that the key element of the Supreme Court decision upholding the Jackson ordinance was that the money escrowed for off-site plantings was reasonable to do the work. He said the Township could determine what is reasonable based on planting contracts for the past two years.
- The Committee made the following recommendations to Council regarding changes to Section 541 of the Land Use Ordinance, "Tree Removal and Tree Cutting":
 - Require the payment of money to the Township when tree replacements cannot be accommodated on the site. The amount to be paid is to be pre-determined to cover the cost of the replacement. This will be required of both residential and non-residential development.
 - Raise the penalty for violation of the ordinance from \$500 to \$1,000. Each illegal removal constitutes a separate offense.
 - Change the definition of a specimen tree from 30" diameter breast height to 20".
- Andrew Link said that Mayor Mount said that the Environmental Fest was lightly attended but those that did attend were very enthusiastic. Mr. Link will see if there is a program of the event to share with the Committee.
- Mr. Link reported that the Township is applying to Business Stimulus Fund for grant money to do tree maintenance in Veteran's Park.
- Site plans for Rider University (Academic Building and BLC Theater Addition) and Auxiliary Services & Hardware Supply were reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
J. Andrew Link
Principal Planner