

Town of Red Hook

Tree Preservation Commission

APPROVED Minutes for 9-21-2021

1. Attendance: 5/7 quorum met.

Chairman Cathy Michael, George (Hop) Michael, Codie Hay, Doug Traudt, Dave Grover and Secretary Linda Keeling.

Absent: Eleanor Friery, Karen Cadorette Jacob Testa, town board liaison

Guests: none

2. Location: Town Hall, the building was closed prior to this month due to Covid.

3. Purpose: Regular monthly meeting on the third Tuesday of every month.

4. Call to Order: *Chairman Cathy Michael* opened the meeting at 7:04 pm with a monthly quote: "There is no Wi-Fi in the forest but I promise you'll find a better connection." (Pinterest) She handed out an agenda.

5. Minutes Corrected from August 17, 2021: Several corrections were recommended by Chairman Cathy Michael: The quote should be: "Texas Forester" The answer is trees, so what's your question?"

p. 1: #4:

a. eliminate "as saying" with quote: "Texas forester" and a comma placed after "trees".

b. A. 1: eliminate "will be installed in the near future" with "have been installed".

c. A. 2: add parenthesis around We did get an Adam's charge card.

p. 2:

4. B: eliminate "on"

4. D. eliminate "grounds person", add in Director of Facilities and Operations, RHCSO," Line 4: change "with" to "as" Line 6: change "Garden Club" to "Old Dutch Village Garden Club, ODVGC" Also, after amount add in "from the Garden Club". Add: "members of the Tree Committee and the Garden Club will collaborate on the project".

6. A: "eliminate "and our bad experience in the past with a denial of our favored location."

6. B: eliminate line 1 "about a clustering of three to five flowering ornamental installations change to "planting several ornamental trees at Red Park West." Line 4: Add "Several tree species including:" change "was" to "were. Add Schichtel's fall"

6. C: Change “Propose” to “Profus” and Line 2 after decade add “since it was done”

Hop Michael motioned to accept the minutes with the corrections and *Codie Hay* seconded.

6. Old Business:

A. Rec Park West: *Chairman Cathy Michael* sent a third email to John Kuhn for feedback for the Rec Park West tree plan. The Rec Commission approved it as shown on the map. The Tree Commission has about \$2300 to spend on the Schichtel’s bare root order.

B. Mill Road School: A tree needs to be taken down, along with the stump. *Codie Hay* will investigate this. *Hop Michael* noted the maple is struggling. It was recommended to remove it and don’t replace it. The Chairman will contact Perry Sheldon regarding the trees discussed.

C. Old Dutch Village Garden Club: During the Garden Club’s last meeting, members approved the expenditure of \$2500 for one shade tree and a bench. The proposal will be made to the School Board for planting in the spring.

Hop Michael mentioned the crimson king tree on Pitcher Lane. *Codie Hay* noted the leaves are curled. Suckers can be trimmed during the winter in December. There are concerns about the farmer plowing close to the trees on the south side. Also, it was felt that the trees have received too much rain this year. *Codie Hay* suggested doing a perk test. *Linda Keeling* added that that area is low and floods on occasion.

D. Local Nurseries Update: *Chairman Cathy Michael* checked out Adams and Augustine regarding installing a Kentucky Coffee tree for John Kuhn’s Rec Park East. Ben’s Pizzeria has generously offered to pay for it. Augustine seems to be more likely to get one.

Augustine’s 5 inch tree would cost \$1200. They would dig and plant the tree at the Rec Park.

At the end of February the Chairman will call back from Augustine about the tree and availability for the other Tree Commission projects.

E. Tree Order: *Chairman Cathy Michael* will call Schichtel and Augustine regarding a hackberry and magnolia.

Members were concerned about the recent extended fires into the giant Sequoia tree groves. Trees are being wrapped in fire protection to save the oldest trees.

F. Tree Inventory: *Karen Cadorette* mailed a copy of our 13 year old inventory in which she participated in collecting the data. *Linda Keeling* mentioned the Inventory gives planting locations, species recommendations and percentages of each type of tree species. Maple and Norway are discouraged due to overplanting in the past.

G. Nature Trail Clean-up: *Eleanor Friery* will contact the school about the clean-up for Oct. or Nov. *Dave Grover* thought there might be a liability Insurance issue. *Linda Keeling* thought we are covered by town insurance.

H. Hardscrabble Day: *Linda Keeling* reported that the day did not compare to years past, only about 2000 people attended during the day as compared to 10,000 people in past years. She noted that the space in front of Annabelle's was unoccupied. Everyone agreed the Garden displays at the four corners looked cute.

I. Tree Watering System Needed: *Dave Grover* noted that the filling, loading and unloading of 5 gallon pails is work intensive and physically limiting for all involved. *Doug Traudt* indicated that a 100 gallon water tank with a total weight of 830 pounds when filled with water for Hop Michael's truck could be purchased inexpensively. He will investigate further.

There was some discussion on when to apply herbicide on unwanted cut down tree stubs.

7. New Business:

A. Baxter Trees: *Codie Hay* noted that the owner of the Baxter farmhouse, Liza Migliorelli, on Whaleback Road is interested in getting trees planted on the open field site across from her house. Everyone was enthusiastic about this as it relates to the Pitcher Lane tree plantings. Migliorelli's family member leases the property. There are no power lines and the soil is good. *Linda Keeling* reminded all that it is a County Road. The Chairman will make contact with the authorities about set-backs.

7. Adjourn: *Dave Grover* made a motion to adjourn, *Hop Michael* seconded, all agreed. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. (Linda distributed tomatoes and peppers from her garden.)

8. Next Meeting Date: **Tuesday, October 19, 2021**, 7:00 pm, town hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Keeling, Secretary