



STAC Minutes of Meeting 9 April 2003

Attending: Carol Avelsgaard, Ruth Bowers, Aileen Coffey, Army Galpern, Arnold Henderson, Nathan Imm, Karen Swaine, George Winnett. Guest: Julie Hajdusek

Call to Order 8:05 p.m. Minutes for March 2003 were approved as written.

Street Fair and Plant Sale April 27 (12–5 p.m.). STAC tables will be in the street at the edge of the Stop & Shop parking lot. Actions: Army is developing the list of volunteers for each hour, and will bring tables. Aileen will see if the library can supply two more. Ruth has requested red oak and white pine seedlings to give away. Arnold will bring boxes/file drawers of literature and sign-up forms for volunteers and tree requests. Nathan has placed in the Main Street office the concept drawings for the Environmental Education Center at the River Road Native Plant Reserve; these can be brought across the street for display between STAC and adjacent Environmental Commission tables. Materials will be needed to keep things from blowing (string, clothespins, and weights such as jugs we can fill with water if needed).

For the plant (and birdhouse) sale, four nurseries are bringing plants: Mapleton, Pinelands, Fern Brook, and Wild Earth. A plant presale will be announced to the public so we can bring enough of plants that we know are wanted. The public can order through karmaya55@hotmail.com or leave notes at borough hall for the STAC box by Wednesday before the sale, then pick up at the fair. Flyers and posters can be placed at borough hall, library, notice board by Rite-Aid, store windows, Stop & Shop bulletin board, and window of Main Street office. Actions: Nathan will develop the flyer. Karen will finish developing the price list she showed us, and Rob will print display posters (11x17 and 8.5x11 inch) based on the illustrated draft he brought. Army will arrange space in the Stop & Shop lot/driveway for plants. Rob will give Arnold a notice for the environmental web site www.leoraw.com/hpenv, and the price list can be added when ready.

Fundraising. The borough expects to use the existing tree donation account for money raised by our plant sale, birdhouse sale, or other donations. Action: Nathan and Ruth will be part of a conference call later this week with administrator Rich Kunze and finance director Nick Trasente to arrange this.

Trails Grant (Trail to Donaldson by DPW Lot). The subcommittee (Loren Muldowney of Environmental Commission and Carol Avelsgaard of STAC) have received three design price quotes from landscape architects. DPW will do some tasks, with materials purchased from our DEP Recreational Trails Grant. The subcommittee will give suggestions to the landscape architect, including planting and stream-protection recommendations from Steve Barnes and STAC members. Action: the subcommittee will choose in the next few days which firm to recommend.

Earth Day Design Presentation (“Groundbreaking”) for Environmental Education Center. The mayor is arranging this ceremony for April 22 [4 p.m.] at the Native Plant Reserve on River Road at Harrison.

Urban Forestry Grant Proposal for Planting Street Trees. This proposal is due May 23 and is the first time the Urban Forestry program is willing to fund street trees. We received past grants for open space (Native Plant Reserve) and school grounds (Irving). If received, this and CDBG funds would be the sources for tree planting next year (target: spring 2004). Action: Arnold will see if borough intern Stacy Vinciguerra can help prepare the package, as she did for our Green Acres Development Grant proposal (solar pavilion at Native Plant Reserve).

Twice Dead Trees. The contractor is expected to make good on the guarantee by a third round of plantings this spring. STAC has given the borough administrator a list of species.

New members appointed: Nathan Imm, Rob Roslewicz, and ShayMaria Silvestri.

Rutgers Arboriculture Classes. George Winnett spoke with administrators at Cook College and found them willing, as a public service, to allow Highland Park volunteers and DPW workers to attend tree management classes without charge. He brought letters from Fran Koppell and Daniela Sharma. This will help the borough meet and exceed the training goals set in our Community Forestry Management Plan. Courses take place in the October to March season. Descriptions can be seen at <http://aesop.rutgers.edu/~ocpe/Landscape.html>. Action: Ruth will show these letters to administrator Rich Kunze, and to DPW’s Lloyd Young and Frank Troy.

Next Meeting: Wed., May 14, 2003, 8:00, Borough Hall