



Minutes of STAC Meeting, June 13, 2006

Call to order 8:05 p.m.

Present: Carol Avelsgaard, Roseann Cala, Arnold Henderson, guest Christie Lutz

Minutes for May were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- Street Fair and Plant Sale. First estimate is we took in \$170 and spent \$171, but Karen is expecting to sell further items later. Tim and Aileen Coffey will help next year.
- CDBG Grant. We have \$4000. DPW has two lists from which sites can be selected, the list of persons requesting trees (which may have enough CDBG sites), and a list of desirable CDBG sites selected by Carol and Arnold as backups for the Cool Cities Program, but much more extensive than was needed then.
- Tools for Native Plant Reserve. We have these recently purchased tools in the pump house: two shovels, two clippers, one bolt cutter for use in trimming tree wires.

NEW BUSINESS

- Arbor Day Proclamation for 2006 was issued by the mayor.
- News release on tree care for the Quarterly will be prepared (Karen and Arnold).
- NPR volunteers. We have had contacts from 4H, boy scouts, and Jamie Shombert.
- Memorial tree. Bill Bonner and Pat Morris will be placing a memorial tree (possibly black oak) for her son at the NPR, and are looking at sites Ruth and Arnold suggested.
- Cool Cities will plant trees at the Centennial Park (River Road and Raritan Avenue). They are not able to plant at the NPR because that land is governed by Green Acres.
- Meadows trail grant. The budget in our proposal (which was accepted by the state) includes money for a machine to cut through brush. Carol has used the Jari and says it is good, and can be used in rough terrain. But it may be sufficient to use ordinary weed-whackers, with possible rental of Jari or other heavier cutter instead of purchase if the areas needing it seem not extensive. Carol believes the simple cutting of brush is therefore not the most important use of funds, but the hiring of laborers to make steps at steep spots; dig out rocks, pipes, and other obstacles; and carry away heavy trash.
- Clipping tree wires. We should remove wires from trees planted long enough ago that they no longer need support. These are mostly those with round stakes, plus a few remaining square stakes from still older plantings. We do not need to remove wires from Cool Cities plantings, as they will do this. (Cool Cities planted cherry trees on Woodbridge and on Raritan Avenues, plus varied species at scattered locations in the Orchard Heights district and on Magnolia and Benner Streets).
- Budget. We started with \$550 for the year. We have spent \$85 for Shade Tree Federation membership and about \$100 for tools. We will later spend \$95 per person-day for members attending the October Shade Tree Federation conference and earning continuing education units, as required by the state for CSIP grant eligibility.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 p.m.. Next meeting July 12, 2006, Borough Hall 8 p.m.