

Town of Henlopen Acres

104 Tidewaters
Henlopen Acres, DE 19971

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MINUTES: Workshop of the Tree Committee of the Town of Henlopen Acres was held on **Friday, February 19, 2016 at 10:00am** at Town Hall on 104 Tidewaters in Henlopen Acres, Delaware

PRESENT:

Nathalie McGregor	Tree Committee
Henry DeWitt	Tree Committee
Thomas Roth	Town Manager
Lisa Michaels	Town Clerk
Sonny McClure	Maintenance Manager
Lynda Moses	39 Pine Reach
Bob Stevens	66 Fields End
Joni Reich	25 Tidewaters
Kesha Braunskill	Delaware Forest Service
Dionne Duphily	Delaware Forest Service

1. Call to Order

Mr. Roth called the meeting to order at 10:02am. Since there was not a quorum present, no decisions can be made today.

2. Introduction of guests from the Delaware Forest Service

Mr. Roth introduced Ms. Braunskill and Ms. Duphily from the Delaware Forest Service. The ladies had visited the Town a week before the meeting to evaluate the current tree canopy, species and damage/loss from the last storm. Ms. Braunskill provided the committee with a lot of helpful information. She discussed a \$5000.00 tree grant which the Town could apply for. The grant requires a Resolution by the Board including a ten year tree canopy goal and can be applied for once a year. She also provided the suitable types of trees that could be planted in specific areas of Town. Ms. Braunskill recommended pines (coniferous) for the sandy areas east of Zwaanendael and hardwoods (deciduous) for the rest of the town. For the east portion of town the trees recommended are: Virginia Pine, Loblolly Pine, Dawn Redwood, American Holly and Southern Magnolia. For the balance of town: Bald Cypress, Dawn Redwood, Sweetbay Magnolia, Southern Magnolia, Black Gum, Maples, Southern Red Oak, Chestnut Oak, Black Locust and American Holly. It was recommended that the Town should contract with an arborist/company to evaluate and inventory the Town's trees. Start with Town trees only.

The Town may earn the Tree City USA designation by adopting a tree ordinance, having tree planting/maintenance in their budget, adopting an Arbor Day proclamation and hold a tree planting or other community program or ceremony.

In a 2008 survey done by the Delaware Forest Service, Henlopen Acres has the third highest percentage of tree canopy at (43.2%) behind Ardentown (72.3%) and Ardencroft (67.02). It was recommended that the Town develop a tree canopy goal, passing a tree canopy resolution to recognize the Town's tree canopy and the desire to maintain or increase the canopy over a ten year period.

The State holds an annual workshop on tree care and also hold periodic workshops on pruning and other tree related topics. We will be notified of the dates and times by the Delaware Forest Service once they are scheduled. It was strongly recommended that the Tree Committee start by defining their priorities on such things as: tree cutting restrictions, planting on easements, tree density requirements, tree replacement requirements, identifying parcels without trees and creating awareness among the residents of the value of trees to the Town. The Delaware Forest Service is available to offer whatever help they can provide going forward. Ms. Braunskill also informed the Committee that homeowners may contact the State Forest service directly to have a tree or trees evaluated on their property free of charge.

Ms. Braunskill supplied the following handouts, which were copied and shared with all Committee members:

“How to Write a Municipal Tree Ordinance”

“Protecting and Enhancing Our Community Forests”

“Urban and Community Tree Inventory Software”

“Tree Inventory and Management Software”

Town of Georgetown, Chapter 208 – Trees

Town of Georgetown, Request for Pricing – New Trees

“Develop a tree ordinance” – American Forests

Delaware Forest Service, Request for Bids – Project Scope and Requirements

Tavistock, Documents and Specifications for Replanting

All the Committee and attendee questions were answered.

3. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05am.

Approved 03/14/2016