

**Town of Henlopen Acres**

104 Tidewaters  
Henlopen Acres, DE 19971

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**MINUTES:** Meeting of the Tree Committee of the Town of Henlopen Acres was held on **Monday May 22, 2017 at 10:00am** at Town Hall on 104 Tidewaters in Henlopen Acres, Delaware

<b>PRESENT:</b>	John Scheurer	Tree Committee
	Henry DeWitt	Tree Committee
	Freddie Noland	Tree Committee
	Lynda Moses	Tree Committee
	David Lyons	Mayor
	Thomas Roth	Town Manager
	Lisa Michaels	Town Clerk

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:03am by John Scheurer.

**2. Review and approval of Minutes March 24, 2017**

There was a misspelling of Freddie Noland's last name on page 1. A **motion** to approve the minutes from March 24, 2017 as corrected, was made by Henry DeWitt and seconded by Freddie Noland. **Motion** passed unanimously.

**3. Review and possible recommendation on amendment to the Tree Ordinance**

A copy of the draft Tree Ordinance was included in the meeting packet. Passing a Tree Ordinance is the last step the Town needs to apply for Tree City designation. The Tree Ordinance is being forward to the Commissioners for review and possible action at their June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**4. Annual Tree Plan**

Prior to discussing the annual tree plan, the Tree Committee had an extensive discussion regarding their authority as a Committee and also the expectations of the Commissioners. Mr. Roth reminded the Tree Committee that they are an Ad-Hoc committee with no authority. He also read from the Charter- Chapter 26.A.8 which specifies that the Town does not have any authority to govern the planting or removal of trees on private property. Mayor Lyons reiterated that the Commissioners do not want to regulate the removal on trees on private property. The Committee will focus their work on maintaining and enhancing the Tree Canopy on Town property and also educating the residents on the importance of trees and the potential problems that can arise when trees are removed. Lynda Moses raised a concern about the potential effects of storm water drainage not only on the property that trees are removed from but also adjacent properties. The Committee also discussed the potential damage from wind on surrounding trees and property once trees have been removed. The Committee then discussed their annual tree plan and it was agreed to continue to plant at least

20 trees per year on Town property. They will continue to engage the services of an arborist to maintain and prune the existing trees. Mr. Roth will be budgeting \$20,000 again for the upcoming fiscal year to cover the costs of tree planting and maintenance.

**5. Arbor Day**

Arbor Day will be celebrated on Friday May 26, 2017 at 2pm. All residents were sent notice in the May newsletter. A loblolly pine will be planted at the marina.

**6. Tree Education Forum**

The Committee would like to have either University of Delaware or Delaware Forest Service come and do an educational presentation on the value of trees. Their hope is to have Town participation so both new homeowners and long term residents will make informed decisions when cutting down trees.

**7. Next meeting**

Next meeting will be scheduled to coincide with the educational presentation.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00am

**Approved 05/11/18.**