

**Environmental Shade Tree Committee
Beachwood Municipal Complex
1600 Pinewald Road**

**February 27, 2024 - Minutes
7:00 PM**

Call to Order and Flag Salute were led by Chairman Schmidt.

Opening Statement: Ladies and Gentlemen, pursuant to the applicable portions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been given. The schedule of this meeting of the Environmental Shade Tree Committee of the Borough of Beachwood is listed in the notice of meetings posted on the Bulletin Board located in the Municipal Complex Building and delivered to the Asbury Park Press on December 23, 2023.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Maria Bird, Pat Burns, Ellen Harrigan, Carl Schmidt

ALSO PRESENT: Councilman Zakar, Patricia Zakar, Beth Conway

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

MEMBER ABSENT:

RESOLUTION #2024-5 Approval of minutes from January 23, 2024 meeting

Motion:	Ms. Burns	Second:	Ms. Harrigan
Approve:	All	Oppose:	
Abstain:			

OLD BUSINESS

1. Community Garden

Chairman Schmidt reported that the applications are being accepted as of March 4th. The flyer announcing the opening was updated and shown to all members. The flyer will be posted at the Complex, on Facebook, and in the library. The garden will open April 13th providing sufficient time for gardeners to prepare their plots.

Ms. Conway inquired about the storage facilities available at the garden. Chairman Schmidt explained there was a shed available with gardening tools and buckets for storage. The shed had a lock to be used by the gardeners with their keys to the garden.

Councilman Zakar mentioned that we may look into the possibility of installing a fire extinguisher if gas powered items were used. Chairman Schmidt pointed out that gas powered tools were not allowed to be stored in the shed.

OLD BUSINESS (CONTINUED):

Chairman Schmidt mentioned that we should consider getting mulch and compost when needed from the Ocean County Recycling Center in Lakewood, New Jersey. This facility will deliver for free.

Chairman Schmidt informed all that we had five interested individuals in the garden from last year's Community Day. He would be emailing the flyer, application, and rules to them.

Chairman Schmidt asked Councilman Zakar to contact the Intermediate School to see if the special needs class was still interested in a plot.

Chairman Schmidt reported that he had met with T J Wrocklage, Public Works Supervisor, to make arrangements to purchase the wood necessary for the remaining seven plots that would be raised and to re-align the gate. Councilman Zakar mentioned he had conversed with the Mayor regarding the renovations on the plots and was informed the Borough would cover the cost.

2. Earth Day Poster Contest

Chairman Schmidt reported he had taken the Contest flyers to both elementary schools on February 16th. He had heard from Coleen Oropeza that students at Pine Beach Elementary had already brought the flyers home. It was reviewed that the entries would be picked up from the schools on March 15th and the Committee would select winners on March 18th. Winners would be announced at the Borough Council Meeting on April 17th. Ms. Harrigan mentioned she could contact the Beachwood Patch to see if they would send a photographer. Mrs. Bird reported that she had three ten dollar gift certificates from Wunder Weiner thus far and would receive three more. Mrs. Conway stated she had contacted Mr. Softee, Moore's Farm Market, and Chuck's Ice Cream and learned they would donate gift certificates.

Ms. Harrigan presented the award certificate she created indicating she would insert the date, school, and winner's name when decided. Besides an award certificate, Mrs. Bird presented information on medals that could be worn from ribbons indicating first, second, and third prize. The Committee agreed would be an excellent addition to the awards and agreed they should be ordered.

Councilman Zakar asked what would be done for all other participants who did not win awards. Suggestion was made that a thank you note would be given to the schools that could be read by the teachers praising the students' ambition to participate and creativity.

3. 2024 New Jersey Tree Recovery Campaign

Chairman Schmidt report the application had been approved. He would pick up the trees on April 25th and they would be distributed at Mayo Park on April 26th.

OLD BUSINESS (CONTINUED):

Mrs. Conway asked what would be done with any extra trees. It was explained they would be offered to the Scouts for their programs. She was informed we could not give them to the Borough since it picks their own trees which are larger than the saplings we provide.

4. Review of fence topic presented by Beth Conway
Chairman Schmidt reported he and Mrs. Bird had met with T J Wrocklage, Public Works Supervisor, and discussed the concern of the orange plastic fencing running parallel to the boardwalk at the Borough beach. He explained it was originally put up to keep the geese away, but he agreed its condition was creating an issue. He stated the fencing and all poles would be taken down some time in March.
5. New Jersey Frontier Group
Chairman Schmidt reported he had invited the New Jersey Frontier Group to our meeting but had not heard from them.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Perennial Plant Research
Councilman Zakar had asked for a list of locations where annuals had been planted. Chairman Schmidt and Mrs. Bird had met with the Supervisor of Public Works and developed a listing of thirteen areas that was presented to the Councilman and Committee. The Councilman suggested to add the areas where the Welcome to Beachwood signs were located.

A listing of perennials was not provided since each locations condition and what plants already existed was unknown. Councilman Zakar asked that the Committee visit the areas in order to observe and make suggestions. Mrs. Bird suggested a member of Pubic Works go with the group to inform us what currently existed in each location.

Ms. Harrigan mentioned we could contact the Master Gardeners of Ocean County to get assistance in identifying perennials suitable for our area. Mrs. Bird informed the group that Hammetts located in Forked River was another resource area.

OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AT 7:58 PM

Motion: Ms. Harrigan
Approval: All
Abstain:

Second: Ms. Burns
Oppose:

CLOSED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AT 7:59 PM

Motion: Ms. Harrigan
Approval: All
Abstain:

Second: Mrs. Bird
Oppose:

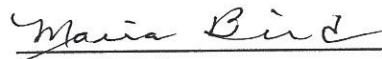
ADJOURNED AT 7:59 PM

Motion: Mrs. Bird
Approval: All
Abstain:

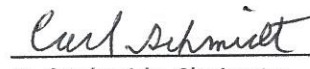
Second: Ms. Harrigan
Oppose:

Prepared by: Maria Bird

Attested By: Carl Schmidt



Maria Bird, Secretary



Carl Schmidt, Chairman