

Holland Township Environmental Commission Minutes

October 3, 2018 7 PM Meeting

Chairman Keady called the meeting to order. He read the notice satisfying the Open Public Meeting Act. All stood for the pledge of allegiance. All were reminded to turn off their cell phones or put them in silent mode.

Members Present: Jerry Bowers, Henry Gore, David Harrison, Mike Keady, Susan Meacham, Ray Note, Dwight Pederson, and Secretary Maria Elena Jennette Kozak.

Present: Township Committee Liaison: Robert Thurgarland

Absent: Ted Harwick.

Let the record show we have a quorum.

Minutes: The approval of the minutes from the September 5, 2018 meeting was tabled.

Community Day: Saturday September 8, 2018. It was executed well. Jerry Bowers expressed some concerns about the demographics being mostly children. Discussions took place about the potential need to change the current day to be more like Milford Alive. We need additional food vendors. The solar oven was an awesome addition to our Green Fair concept. Talking about serious issues is not something that people attending Community Day really want to get into. Getting people to engage on serious environmental issues has not been a huge success in many years and that makes trying to educate the public a challenge.

PennEast Pipeline update: Susan Meacham and Mike Keady – Nothing new to report. There has been no decision from the Federal Court on Eminent Domain. Susan Meacham attended an informal gathering about banning fracking. Discussions then took place about flare or burning of the gas. Mike Keady stated that Penn East denied petitions for hearings and now those people have agreed they want to go to court.

Phoenix Energy Center– Michael Keady – Nothing to report.

Sub-Committees:

Additional discussion to take place in the future regarding sub-committee titles and positions.

Stormwater Education – Mike Keady, Jerry Bowers and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as Secretary –nothing new to report. Secretary Kozak will work with DPW Supervisor Turdo as the educational point system has changed and revisions are needed.

Trails – Ted Harwick, Jerry Bowers and Ray Note. Nothing new to report. Trail information is to be put on the web Secretary Kozak to check with the brochures we have so we can add to the website.

Community Education and Outreach – Jerry Bowers, Dwight Pederson, and Susan Meacham – If you see additional corrections that are needed please send them to Secretary Kozak. The link is as follows: <http://www.hollandtownshipnj.gov/14-ec/46-environmental-commission.html>. All were still encouraged to think about how to publicize the Trails. Mapping will need to be created etc.

Highlands Conformance – Jerry Bowers and Mike Keady. Progress is being made with the Water Use and Conservation Management Plan. Nothing new to report. Mike Keady reported that Holland Township is the poster child for the Highlands Council.

Shade Tree and Community Forestry Plan Sub-Committee – Henry Gore (emeritus), David Harrison, Ted Harwick, Dwight Pederson and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as secretary. The Tree Identification class was a success and everyone thanked Henry Gore for teaching yet another class with another thank you extended to Dwight Pederson and David Harrison for hosting the class. Henry Gore has a tree branch in the back of the meeting room with a suggestion that we should have a winter class using twigs and fruit as an identification factor. Henry Gore handed out a list of the Lifespans of Common Trees in Virginia which shows the Grey Birch as being the worst.

Lifespans of Common Trees in Virginia

Source: Loehle, C. (1988). "Tree life history strategies: the role of defenses (documents/Loehle1 988-Can Journal For Res-18(2).pdf)." Canadian Journal of Forest Research 18(2): 209-222.

Click the column header to sort the table

Common Name	Scientific Name	Average Lifespan •	Maximum Lifespan
Cypress, Bald	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	600	1800
Hemlock, Eastern	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	450	800
Oak, White	<i>Quercus alba</i>	300	600
Oak, Overcup	<i>Quercus lyrata</i>	300	400
Oak, Chestnut	<i>Quercus prinus</i>	300	400
Beech, American	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	300	400
Pecan	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	300	?
Maple, Sugar	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	300	400
Ash, White	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	260	300
Hickory, Shagbark	<i>Carya ovata</i>	250	300
Tulip—Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	250	450
Oak, Post	<i>Quercus stellata</i>	250	450

Tupelo, Black	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	250	600
Common Name	Scientific Name	Average Lifespan •	Maximum Lifespan
Elm, Slippery	<i>Ulmus rubra</i>	200	300
Hickory, Mockernut	<i>Carya tomentosa</i>	200	300
Pine, Shortleaf	<i>Pinus echinata</i>	200	300
Pine, White	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	200	450
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	200	300
Oak, Northern Red	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	200	400
Oak, Live	<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	200	300
Hickory, Pignut	<i>Carya glabra</i>	200	300
Oak, Southern Red	<i>Quercus falcata</i>	200	275
Oak, Water	<i>Quercus nigra</i>	175	175
Hickory, Bitternut	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	175	200
Elm, American	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	175	300
Cedar, Eastern red	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	150	300
Birch, Yellow	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	150	300
Spruce, Blue	<i>Picea pungens</i>	150	350
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	150	200
Walnut, Black	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	150	250

Birch, Sweet	<i>Betula lenta</i>	150	250
Maple, Red	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	130	300
Dogwood, Flowering	<i>Corpus florida</i>	125	?
Common Name	Scientific Name	Average Lifespan •	Maximum Lifespan
Mulberry, Red	<i>Morus rubra</i>	125	?
Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	120	?
Ash, Green	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanicum</i>	120	175
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	100	500
Holly, American	<i>Ilex opaca</i>	100	150
Catalpa	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	100	?
Maple, Silver	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	100	125
Oak, Basket	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	100	200
Oak, Black	<i>Quercus velutina</i>	100	225
Oak, Blackjack	<i>Quercus marilandica</i>	100	?
Oak, Pin	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	100	150
Birch, Paper	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	100	140
Pine, Virginia	<i>Pinus virginiana</i>	100	200
Poplar, Balsam	<i>Populus balsamifera</i>	100	150
Pine, Loblolly	<i>Pinus taeda</i>	100	300

Common Name

Oak, Scarlet

Cucumbertree

Osage-orange

Boxelder

Willow, Black

Persimmon

Locust, Black

Birch, Gray

Basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>	100	140
Chestnut, American	<i>Castanea dentata</i>	100	300
Cherry, Black	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	100	250
Pine, Table Mountain	<i>Pinus pungens</i>	100	200
Magnolia, Southern	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	80	120

Scientific Name	Average Lifespan •	Maximum Lifespan
<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	80	180
<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	80	250
<i>Maclura pomifera</i>	75	300 +
<i>Acer negundo</i>	75	100

<i>Salix nigra</i>	70	85
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	60	80
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	60	100
<i>Betula populifolia</i>	50	?

Related Links

- Search VA Big Trees ([search.cfm](#))
- Protecting Trees ([protect.html](#))
- Other Resources ([resources.html](#))

External Links

- National Big Tree Register
(<http://www.americanforests.org/bigtrees/bigtreessearch/>)
- OldList of verified ancient trees in North America
(<http://www.rmtrr.org/oldlist.htm>)
- OldList of verified ancient trees in the Eastern United States (<http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/~adk/oldlisteast>)
- Wikipedia list of oldest trees
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_oldest_trees)
- An Old Tree Doesn't Get Taller, But Bulks Up Like A Bodybuilder
(<http://www.npr.org/2014/01/16/262479807/old-trees-grow-faster-with-everyyear>)

Community Forestry Plan Grant - proposal regarding a tree inventory have been sent out with responses returned. We have not received a response from one vendor we sent it to and Secretary Kozak was asked to follow up with.

Inventory on Fauna and Flora subcommittee - David Harrison, Dwight Pederson, Ray Note and Henry Gore (emeritus) – Nothing new to report.

Tree City USA program –Ray Note handed out information on how to write a tree ordinance and the same sample City Tree Ordinance as last month.

The sample ordinance was designed for use in Midwestern communities of average population. The ordinance that your community ultimately develops should be designed to fit its specific needs.

SAMPLE CITY TREE ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by the City Commission of the City of:

(City) _____

(State) _____

Section 1. Definitions

Street trees: "Street trees" are herein defined as trees, shrubs, bushes, and all other woody vegetation on land lying between property lines on either side of all streets, avenues, or ways within the City.

Park Trees: "Park trees" are herein defined as trees, shrubs, bushes and all other woody vegetation in public parks having individual names, and all areas owned by the City, or to which the public has free access as a park.

Section 2. Creation and Establishment of a City Tree Board

There is hereby created and established a City Tree Board for the City of:

(City) _____

(State) _____

which shall consist of five members, citizens and residents of this city, who shall be appointed by the mayor with the approval of the Commission.

Section 3. Term of Office

The term of the five persons to be appointed by the mayor shall be three years except that the term of two of the members appointed to the first board shall be for only one year and the term of two members of the first board shall be for two years. In the event that a vacancy shall occur during the term of any member, his successor shall be appointed for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 4. Compensation

Members of the board shall serve without compensation.

Section 5, Duties and Responsibilities

It shall be the responsibility of the Board to study, investigate, council and develop and/or update annually, and administer a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets and in other public areas. Such plan will be presented annually to the City Commission and upon their acceptance and approval shall constitute the official comprehensive city tree plan for the City of:

(City) _____

(State) _____

The Board, when requested by the City Commission, shall consider, investigate, make finding, report and recommend upon any special matter of question coming within the scope of its work.

Section 6. Operation

The Board shall choose its own officers, make its own rules and regulations and keep a journal of its proceedings. A majority of the members shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 7. Street Tree Species to be Planted

The following list constitutes the official

Street Tree species for:

(City) _____

(State) _____

SMALL TREES	MEDIUM TREES	LARGE TREES
Apricot	Ash, Green	Coffeetree, Kentucky
Crabapple,	Hackberry	Maple, Silver
Flowering (sp)	Honeylocust	Maple, Sugar
Golden Rain Tree	(thornless)	Oak, Bur
Hawthorne (sp.)	Linden or	Sycamore
Pear, Bradford	Basswood (sp.)	Sycamore, London
Redbud	Mulberry, Red	plantree
Soapberry	(fruitless, male)	Cottonwood
Lilac, Jap. Tree	Oak, English	(Cottonless,
Peach, Flowering	Oak, Red	male)
Plum, Purpleleaf	Pagodatree,	
Serviceberry	Japanese	
	Pecan	
	Birch, River	

No species other than those included in without written permission of the City Tree

size-class examples only and may not be check with local sources to develop a

	Osageorange (Male, thornless) Persimmon Poplar, White Sassafras	
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this list may be planted as Street Trees Board.

** Please note: The above species are offered as suitable for planting in your area. Please species list for your area.*

Section 8. Spacing

The spacing of Street Trees will be in accordance with the three species size classes listed in Section 7 of this ordinance, and no trees may be planted closer together than the following: Small Trees, 30 feet; Medium Trees, 40 feet; and Large Trees, 50 feet; except in special plantings designed or approved by a landscape architect.

Section 9. Distance from Curb and Sidewalk

The distance trees may be planted from curbs or curblines and sidewalks will be in accordance with the three species size classes listed in Section 7 of this ordinance, and no trees may be planted closer to any curb or sidewalk than the following: Small Trees, 2 feet; Medium Trees, 3 feet; and Large Trees, 4 feet.

Section 10. Distance from Street Corners and Fireplugs

No Street Tree shall be planted closer than 35 feet of any street corner, measured from the point of nearest intersecting curbs or curblines. No Street Tree shall be planted closer than 10 feet of any fireplug.

Section 11. Utilities

No Street Trees other than those species listed as Small Trees in Section 7 of this ordinance may be planted under or within 10 lateral feet of any overhead utility wire, or over or within 5 lateral feet of any underground water line, sewer line, transmission line or other utility.

Section 12. Public Tree Care

The City shall have the right to plant, prune, maintain and remove trees, plants and shrubs within the lines of all streets, alleys, avenues, lanes, squares and public grounds, as may be necessary to insure public safety or to preserve or enhance the symmetry and beauty of such public grounds.

The City Tree Board may remove or cause or order to be removed, any tree or part thereof which is in an unsafe condition or which by reason of its nature is injurious to sewers, electric power lines, gas lines, water lines, or other public improvements, or is affected with any injurious fungus, insect or other pest. This Section does not prohibit the planting of Street Trees by adjacent property owners providing that the selection and location of said trees is in accordance with Sections 7 through 11 of this ordinance.

Section 13. Tree Topping

It shall be unlawful as a normal practice for any person, firm, or city department to top any Street Tree, Park Tree, or other tree on public property. Topping is defined as the severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three inches in diameter within the tree's crown to such a degree so as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes, or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical may be exempted from this ordinance at the determination of the City Tree Board.

Section 14. Pruning, Corner Clearance

Every owner of any tree overhanging any street or right-of-way within the City shall prune the branches so that such branches shall not obstruct the light from any street lamp or obstruct the view of any street intersection and so that there shall be a clear space of eight feet (8') above the surface of the street or sidewalk. Said owners shall remove all dead, diseased or dangerous trees, or broken or decayed limbs which constitute a menace to the safety of the public. The City shall have the right to prune any tree or shrub on private property when it interferes with the proper spread of light along the street from a street light or interferes with visibility of any traffic control device or sign.

Section 15. Dead or Diseased Tree Removal on Private Property

The City shall have the right to cause the removal of any dead or diseased trees on private property within the city, when such trees constitute a hazard to life and property, or harbor insects or disease which constitute a potential threat to other trees within the city. The City Tree Board will notify in writing the owners of such trees. Removal shall be done by said owners at their own expense within sixty days after the date of service of notice. In the event of failure of owners to comply with such provisions, the City shall have the authority to remove such trees and charge the cost of removal on the owners property tax notice.

Section 16. Removal of Stumps

All stumps of street and park trees shall be removed below the surface of the ground so that the top of the stump shall not project above the surface of the ground.

Section 17. Interference with City Tree Board

It shall be unlawful for any person to prevent, delay or interfere with the City Tree Board, or any of its agents, while engaging in and about the planting, cultivating, mulching, pruning, spraying, or removing of any Street Trees, Park Trees, or trees on private grounds, as authorized in this ordinance.

Section 18. Arborists License and Bond

It shall be unlawful for any person or firm to engage in the business or occupation of pruning, treating, or I en-loving suet or paik trees within the City without first applying for and procuring a license. The license fee shall be \$25 annually in advance; provided, however, that no license shall be required of any public service company or City employee doing such work in the pursuit of their public service endeavors. Before any license shall be issued, each applicant shall first file evidence of possession of liability insurance in the minimum amounts of \$50,000 for bodily injury and \$100,000 property damage indemnifying the City or any person injured or damaged resulting from the pursuit of such endeavors as herein described.

Section 19. Review by City Commission The City Commission shall have the right to review the conduct, acts and decisions of the City Tree Board. Any person may appeal from any ruling or order of the City Tree Board to the City Commission who may hear the matter and make final decision.

Section 20. Penalty

Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall be, upon conviction or a plea of guilty, subject to a fine not to exceed \$_____

Mike Keady explained that an ordinance will cost money to develop which led Henry Gore to bring up his prior suggestions on ordinances that he thinks Holland Township needs to explore developing. Henry Gore will work with Mike Keady on a list of ordinances that Holland Township should explore. Jerry Bowers urged everyone to use caution when proposing ordinances to solve problems that do not exist. Henry Gore is interested in being proactive rather than reactive. Jerry Bowers just asked that we use self-discipline when urging restraints on our neighbors when there would be push back and is there real public good involved? A suggestion was made to identify projects that are in the works and explore options with that.

Public Comment: No one is present in the public.

Spotted Lantern Fly: Ray Note mentioned that two ladies came to his door to get permission to come onto his property to look for the spotted lantern fly. If they find something they will do something. The government is aware of the problems with the spotted lantern fly. If you see it, report it!

At 8:00 pm David Harrison made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Elena Jennette Kozak

Maria Elena Jennette Kozak

Environmental Commission Secretary