

Oriental Tree Board Meeting
August 11, 2009

The Oriental Tree Board met on Tuesday, August 11, 2009 at 9:00 am at the Oriental Town Hall.

Present were: Board members Miller, Andrews, King and Leavitt
Recording Secretary Wagoner
Public Works Supervisor Fears
Prospective Tree Board member Cohen

Chairman Miller opened the meeting

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -

MOTION: Chairman Miller made a motion to approve the June 2 and July 7 minutes. Second by Mr. King. Vote 4-0

WATER OAK TREE ON CHURCH STREET – A large oak tree in front of the School House apartments lost a large limb during the a recent storm and is so damaged that it needs to come down. Even though there are power lines skirting the tree, Progress Energy will not pay to have it removed. There is some question as to the ownership of the tree. Mr. Larry Gwaltney, the property manager, informed the town manager that he would provide documentation showing the tree in the town's right-of-way. Given that the tree trunk is so big, the end result might be that the tree is jointly owned. However, Mr. Gwaltney has been put on notice by the Tree Board that the tree is high risk, so he will bear the liability should more branches fall and cause damage.

PRUNING / WATERING – Mr. Andrews stated that the crape myrtle outside of the Old Hotel needs to be pruned as does one at M&M's. Mr. Fears pointed out that a "Children At Play" sign is hidden in a tree on Ragan Road. The crab apples on Church St. need pruning and one needs to be removed completely. The cedars on 3rd Ave. still need attention. Members of the Board will meet at 8 am this Thursday (Aug. 13) to do the work.

PUBLICITY – The County Compass did publish Mr. Miller's article on landscaping businesses. It is important to do regular articles.

INSPECTION OF OAK TREE IN LOU MAC PARK – This still has not been done. One branch will be removed.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS – Ms. Cohen asked who was in charge of keeping the Welcome to Oriental flower bed weeded. (No one is! She volunteered to clean it up.) Ms. Wagoner asked who was in charge of weeding the Rain Garden. (Ms. Leavitt and Ms. Beal are and Ms. Wagoner will weed as time permits.) Ms. Wagoner also informed the Board that a rain barrel will be placed outside the town hall near the front door.

The pine trees around the water plant were also discussed. Mr. Miller will talk to the town manager and have those trees added to the cut list. This list currently includes trees on High St., Windward Dr. and now Gilgo Rd.

As Ms. Cohen stated that she would like to join the Tree Board;

MOTION: Ms. Miller made a motion to recommend the Town Board appoint Kelly Cohen to the Tree Board. Second by Ms. Leavitt. Vote 4-0.

There being no further business;

MOTION: Mr. Andrews made the motion to adjourn. Second by Ms. Leavitt. Vote 4-0.

Robert Miller, Chairman

Lori Wagoner, Recording Secretary