

MINUTES
BEECH MOUNTAIN TREE BOARD
July 11, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER

Town Manager Michael Boaz called the first meeting of the Beech Mountain Tree Board to order at 9:05 AM. Board members present were Rory Ellington, Marge Bailey, Cindy Porter, and Renee Castiglione. Board member Peter Patton was out of town and not present. Also present were Mayor Rick Owen and Town Council member Pete Chamberlin.

II. Election of Chairperson-Marge Bailey moved to appoint Renee Castiglione as Chairman. Rory Ellington seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

III. Election of Vice-Chairperson-Mrs. Castiglione moved to appoint Rory Ellington as the Vice-Chairman. Cindy Porter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IV. Set Meeting Date and Time-Mrs. Castiglione moved to set the meetings of the Tree Board for the second Friday of each month at 10:00 AM in the Town Council Chambers. Mr. Ellington seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

V. Discussion of Tree Board Objectives-Mr. Boaz discussed with the Board the goals that the Council hoped that the Tree Board would meet. Mr. Boaz explained that the Council wanted the Tree Board to work with the consultant hired as a part of the Urban Forestry Grant to develop a Master Tree Plan for the Town. This Plan would consist of studying the Town's forest and making recommendations about what species of trees would do well on Beech Mountain. Mrs. Porter expressed her concern about the duties of the Tree Board listed in the Tree Ordinance. Mr. Boaz explained that these were the duties that were recommended by the Arbor Day Foundation to meet the requirements to become a Tree City USA. Mr. Boaz explained that while the Council wanted the Tree Board to carry out these powers and duties, the Board was certainly not limited to these. Mr. Porter asked about the cutting of trees for modular homes and why there were allowed to cut more than traditional site built homes. Mr. Boaz explained that while they could cut more, they were required to replant those trees. Mr. Boaz also stated that the Tree Board would be working with the consultant to develop a list of tree species that could be used for replanting.

VI. Discussion of Urban Forestry Grant-Mr. Boaz informed the Board that the Town had applied for and received a grant in the amount of \$9,500 for the purpose of preparing a master tree plan. The money from the grant would be used to hire a consultant to study the Town's forest and help prepare the plan. The grant would also help to produce some educational materials to help educate the public about cutting of trees. In addition, the consultant would work with the Board to make suggested changes to the Town's tree ordinances. Mrs. Bailey asked if the Town had to use all of the money on the consultants. Mr. Boaz explained that the grant was written based on the only quote that staff was able to get which was for \$9,500. If the Town was able to do the same work for less money with a different consultant, then the grant agreement could likely be amended to use the money for other purposes. The Board, after

some discussion, asked Mr. Boaz and Mr. Ellington to try to get some more quotes for consultants and to bring them to the August meeting.

VII. Adjourned – The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM.

Minutes approved by Tree Board on August 8, 2008

ATTEST:

Chairwoman

Town Manager