

# Mountain Lakes Shade Tree Commission Agenda

Nov 11, 2020 7pm Zoom

Members present: Chris Capodanno, Sandy Batty, Lucas Stelling, Phyllis Deering, Andrew Armani

Borough Council Liaison: Lauren Barnett

Student Members: Rebecca Hirschfeld, Jackie Edwards,

1. Administration

- Approval of October Meeting Minutes
- 2021 Roles were discussed as well as posting for new members based on some changes projected

2. P&R / Tree Inventory Updates

Member reported on their area status

It was discussed how to enter removing vines and alanthus (tree of heaven)

Resident feedback in some areas was reported about ROW tree maintenance

Where possible we should list if it may be a JCP&L pruning instead of the Borough

Completed spreadsheets should be emailed to the chair to finalize work orders

It was suggested that STC put together a one- or two-page information sheet about what STC does and how residents can help. The Borough would publicize.

3. Tree Planting 2020

Lucas updated members on 2020 Tree planting and potential locations in the rights of way for planting new trees. The Borough sent letters to about 100 homeowners to inquire about their interest. Many homeowners expressed interest, although some others asked to not have a tree planted. He finalized a list of 51 locations, including some at Island Beach and Birchwood Parking lots. The trees will be planted around Thanksgiving.

4. Development Projects (Sandy/Chris)

**Sunrise Development.** The Council passed a Resolution on Nov 9 designating that the Sunrise contribution for tree removal be placed into the Tree Fund.

The Chair has asked the Borough Engineer Bill Ryden for his documentation of the number of trees Sunrise removed in addition to those originally designated, as well as additional planting in the rear buffer.

**Highview** The Planning Board is scheduled to consider the application for the Zeri's property on November 19 in an on-line meeting.

5. NJ Shade Tree Federation Core Training

Lucas and Andrew attended the CORE training and said it was very helpful. The legal and the scientific information, and detail on planting the right tree in right place in particular.

6. Liaison updates

Student Liaisons - Mtn Lakes High School Botanical Garden Jackie reported the environmental club had its first meeting. Rebecca said that members were enthusiastic about having a few trees planted. We might contribute funds for a tree or trees. Sandy will send Jackie and Rebecca a copy of the ordinance one tree for each 10 parking spots.

Environmental Commission is interested in setting up a subcommittee for the Route 46 median planting. However the cost seems to be very high because a lane of Route 46 would have to shut down. Perhaps businesses along Route 46 would contribute. The ML Police Chief indicated that the NJ DOT may have restrictions on tree size and species. The Chair joined the Parsippany Environmental Commission meeting, just before our meeting, to discuss the Route 46 planting and they have also expressed interest and will be discussion with their Mayor.

Woodlands Committee concerned with the dumping in the woods. They feel illegal dumping is of such volume that it can kill trees. Lauren said that notices have gone out in the Borough blast, but perhaps more education is needed.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: Dec 9 by Zoom.