

## **Mountain Lakes Shade Tree Commission – meeting minutes** **Wednesday, April 13, 2022**

**Members attending:** Sandy Batty, Marnie Vyff, Phyllis Deering, Rebecca Hirschfeld, Margaret Berei, Dan Amato, Lucas Stelling, Cath Mitchell, Cynthia Korman: Borough liaison

**Guests:** Doren Greene: Woodlands committee liaison, Sara Foreman

1. **March minutes** were passed.
2. **Sapling distribution** – April 30 – Mountain Lakes High School. 100 saplings for Wildwood Arbor Day, 400 for general distribution. To be picked up April 22. Logistics were discussed. Word will be spread via Borough Blast, Mountain Lakes Facebook Parents, MLEF.
3. **Salem oak** – Phyllis picked up the sapling. Phyllis will reach out to Doug Edler at DPW for suggestions where it can be planted. Cath will help Phyllis plant the sapling.
4. **Memorial and honorary trees** – Marnie will update the website list.
5. **Arbor Day Celebration** – April 29 at 1:30 PM at Wildwood outside in the front circle. Janet Horst will read her story “The Wildwood Mouse”. Cynthia will contact Tom Menard to read the proclamation. Honoree will be MaryEllen Dietrich by majority vote.
6. **Self storage facility Highview Commercial** – discussed STC response to plans that were written by Sandy with help from Chris, Dan and Cath. All agreed to changes.
7. **Vines on trees** – the Shade Tree Commission agrees the DPW should remove them. Marnie’s sent a link to an article about how they kill trees. Cynthia will bring it up with Mitchell.
8. **Empty lot on Route 46 at Rainbow Trail and Lakewood** – Cynthia suggested planting trees as a buffer on private property. Shade Tree Commission jurisdiction does not include private property. The borough will follow through outside of the commission.
9. **Rebecca reported** on the Environmental Club Coffeehouse Open Mic on April 12. They raised over \$300 from suggested donations. The Club is discussing what to do with the funds.
10. **Watering the new trees** this summer. Lucas will contact the DPW.
11. **Stump Grinding** – The STC agreed unanimously that we should grind stumps if residents request it when we take down trees. It’s good public relations.
12. **Membership** – Doren and Sara left the meeting and the members discussed their applications and agreed to accept them as alternate members.

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Meeting ended at 8:54 PM.

Next meeting is Wednesday, May 11, 2022.