

# Mountain Lakes Shade Tree Commission – meeting minutes

## Wednesday, May 11, 2022

**Members attending:** Sandy Batty, Marnie Vyff, Phyllis Deering, Rebecca Hirschfeld, Margaret Berei, Dan Amato, Lucas Stelling, Cynthia Korman: Borough liaison, Doren Greene: Woodlands committee liaison

1. **April minutes** were passed as written.
2. **Arbor Day Celebration** – April 29 – Phyllis reported: Went well and our honoree Mary Ellen Dietrich was touched, Deputy Mayor read the Proclamation.
3. **Sapling distribution** – April 30 – Phyllis reported: Not as successful. There was a date change and the final location was not printed. She will give leftover saplings to Woodlands committee and the Rockaway Valley Garden Club plant sale too.
4. **Salem Oak** – Phyllis reported: she has it in a pot at her house, Members discussed placement, and historic significance. Possibly we can write a story for the website.
5. **Saplings to be planting on Intervale Road** – JCPL gave 20-25 saplings to Parsippany to be planted in the area off Route 46 where they took down many trees last year. Chris mentioned to the Mayor that many invasive plants have taken over the area..
6. **Resident requests** –  
**Corner of West Shore and Roberts Drive.** Sandy said that this tree is in a Borough owned lot, and doesn't present a hazard. The Woodlands Committee told her that problem trees in Borough lots should be reported to the DPW.  
**9 Ronarm:** Norway maple, under wires with bulging roots. Wants stump ground too. We do not take out trees for cosmetic purposes. But we can give homeowner permission at their expense.
7. **Stump Removal & removing vines:** At April meeting Shade Tree Commission voted unanimously to have stump grinding at resident requests. Sandy talked to the Borough Manager who said that the town stump grinding is too expensive and the Borough won't pay for it unless it's a safety issue. She also raised the issue of the vines, because the DPW will not remove them from trees when the STC notes these. The Manager said he could put vine removal as part of the RFP when the town goes out to bid for tree work. Cynthia will bring up with Council and Borough Manager.
8. **Liaison Updates**  
**MLHS Student Update** – (Margaret) The Environmental Club will be planting Botanical garden at the High School. Students volunteered with EC for Trash Clean up, Fundraiser Coffee House event raised over \$300, film screenings - free to attend  
**Environmental Commission** – (Marnie) Trash Day at DPW gave out gloves and bags for people signed up to clean up parks

**Green Team** – (Marnie) Will have a rain barrel workshop July 2nd at ML Day event

9. **Tree care** – (Lucas) watering list to Sandy and Chris.
10. **Other Business** – (Cynthia) NJ Highlands Council will present at the Borough Council meeting will be June 13 to see if ML should opt into the Highlands Master Plan.

Meeting ended at 8:00 PM.

Next meeting is Wednesday, June 8, 2022.