

Mountain Lakes Shade Tree Commission
Minutes November 9, 2022

Members attending: Sandy Batty, Marnie Vyff, Chris Capodanno, Doren Greene, Cath Mitchell, Dan Amato, Margaret Berei

1. **Minutes** of Oct. 12 were passed with the correction that the names of the members who had attended should be listed.
2. **Tree Inventory walks.** Sandy thanked the members for submitting their information. She asked members to make note of any prune or remove recommendations that involve trees in wires: Borough Manager give this list to JCPL. She has contacted the arborist and is trying to schedule his visit. She will ask his advice on some of the trees questioned by members. If there's time, the arborist will also look at Borough-owned lots that haven't been inspected in the last year or two.
3. **Tree planting budget and locations.** Lucas was not able to attend tonight's meeting but asked that the members get their planting locations to him right away and he will get flags to them. Sandy said that we have over \$12,000 in the budget for planting trees and two donations to the Shade Tree Fund for trees, which will allow us to plant 37 trees.
4. **Fees** for tree permits and Memorial/honorary trees. Cerbo's let us know that they have increased their price to \$395 per tree. Because the Borough is a long-time customer, Cerbo's reduced this year's price to \$350. The Commission voted to recommend that the fees for tree permits (for removing trees above the three allowed by ordinance) and memorial/honorary trees be increased to \$425, which will cover the increased cost, plus administrative time.
5. **CEUs** Sandy reminded the members that we still need a few CEUs to fulfill our training requirement. She will forward training opportunities as she receives them. Cath said she was interested, and we might need one more person to attend a course.
6. **Island Beach.** We would like to plant additional trees at Island Beach because when the new facilities were built, over 20 trees were taken down. As the construction was not under the STC budget, the replacement trees should be part of the construction bond. Cynthia will raise the issue with DPW.
7. **Liaison reports**
 - *MLHS* Margaret Berei got permission to have a Bulletin Board for environmental topics. The Environmental Club did upkeep on the botanical garden, including changing some slates in walkway. She alerted the commission to a State Bill requiring a permit to sell invasive plant species. <https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/bill-search/2022/S2186>

Environmental Comm: Chris spoke about the Environmental Commission developing comments regarding the proposal to add to the Craig School parking lot. The EC is also

working on amendment to steep slope ordinance; and a landscape subcommittee is drafting a Noise Pollution Ordinance update.

Woodlands: Doren said the Committee has completed its Inventory of pocket parks. She attended the EC landscape subcommittee meeting on ordinances. The Woodlands Committee is discussing putting a bird blind in the Tourne.

8. **Pruning** Cynthia asked DPW about getting an employee to be trained on proper pruning. They replied that instead of DPW, pruning will be done by an outside contractor.
9. **Budget** Marnie mentioned that the next meeting we should talk about the 2023 budget.
10. **Intervale** road Invasives are attacking the four trees we planted on Intervale near Route 46. The STC discussed solutions. Marnie will look at the area to see where more trees could be put along the entrance to ML.

Meeting ended at 8:15 pm.