

Shade Tree Commission of Mountain Lakes Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Mountain Lakes Shade Tree Commission October 11, 2023

Present: Sandy Batty, Lucas Stelling, Dan Amato, Chris Capodanno, Doren Greene, Phyllis Deering, Marnie Vyff, Julia Weiner: Student Member

September 2023 Minutes: were accepted as submitted.

Tree Prune & Remove reports: Are due. There are a lot of dead trees. Sandy said we may be over budget this year because the trees have been stressed from the heat. We are to state if the branches are near wires. We discussed various trees in different zones. We have also lost many trees to volcano mulching.

Town wide flyer: Will cost STC about \$400 for our share. Chris Capodanno says it got a good response. We should now send it out with the Virtual Backpack and put it on the Borough website news.

Requests for trees: Lucas said about six tree requests have come in, but a couple are under wires. We discussed types of trees that might be able to be planted under wires.

Planting budget: Lucas will manage planting again. He will check pricing to work out how many trees we can plant. Thinking about \$400 each. DPW has been great about watering.

CEUs: Sandy is going to a conference which will give three credits, but we need eight this year. DPW usually sends a person. Sandy will also look for virtual classes. Marnie is happy to do a virtual class.

Liaison reports

High School: Julia can create an Instagram account, like the historical preservation Instagram account. The flyer can be posted there too. She is also interested in planting trees on School property. We discussed how it has to go through the Board of Ed. and we have had different issues in the past, but it is worth a try.

Environmental Commission: Sandy noted that Mimi Kaplan was just appointed to the Planning Board and Dan is taking over as Chair.

Woodlands: Did not meet this month.

Other business: Lucas created a presentation proposing the Shade Tree Trust Fund cover some residential costs for pruning in setback areas. It was met with great interest. He will clean it up and we will give him our suggestions and look at it again next meeting.

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Minutes taken by Marnie Vyff. The next meeting will be November 8, 2023.