

**Borough of Mountain Lakes**  
**Shade Tree Commission**  
**July 8, 2020**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Attending:** Chris, Lucas, Brett, Sandy, Marnie, Rebecca Herschfeld, Lauren Barnett, Jaqueline Edwards,

Guest: Chris Arakelian,

1. Administration : Welcome/Introduced Rebecca. New Members. May passed & June Meeting Minutes passed as written. Boulevard Trees Article
2. Zeri's Property Development. The STC discussed the draft comment letter for the Planning Board. The STC requested trying to preserve two mature trees on the property. One in particular is the majestic old oak at the entrance to the property. The STC also suggested planting trees in the parking lot. We should specify type of tree.
3. Birchwood & Island Beach Plantings. Before locations for new trees can be decided for Island beach we need to know where the new boat racks and swing set will be located. Also there will be two handicap spots in parking lot. Paving will take place in the fall or early spring. The STC discussed whether there is an opportunity to plant in lot, but decided probably there will not be sufficient space.
4. Equipment. We need vests for safety during our walks and to identify ourselves as STC members. Lauren will contact DPW to see if they have any. Also, she will ask about the water bags for new trees and see if DPW has the metal tree caliper measurer.
5. 2020 New Tree Planting Budget will allow for nearly 40 trees.
6. Fund Raising for Tree Planting. We have the Shade Tree trust account with about \$4000. We need to get information about the trust account and will ask the bank for account information. We can solicit additional donations for the Trust fund including donations from companies. Brett is looking to improve branding.
7. Resident Queries: Pine Edge – need to respond, 110 Boulevard – If we allow a permit for ash tree removal, this will not set future policy. Marnie, Lucas, Brett will look at the property to see if the trees are dead or dying.
8. Commission Liaison Updates & Other Business. Green team has a summer intern looking at the Borough's energy use under a study funded by NJNG. STC is not ready to come to Council with a presentation on tree canopy
9. Tree Walk Sheets Marnie has printed lists, which can be picked up at her house. Marnie explained inventory procedures, including doing walks with other members and marking any changes in tree conditions on the inventory, and adding the location of new trees that have been planted.
10. Student liaison. Chris welcomed Rebecca, our new student member. We will have two students from the HS Environmental Club.