

Mountain Lakes Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

November 12th, 2015 6:00pm Borough Hall

Members Present: Consuelo Murtagh, Heather Scott, Blair Bravo, Sandy Batty, Janet Horst, Marnie Vyff, Chris Capodanno

1. Comments from the Public: Edwina Gaiser Merchev attended the meeting and expressed her interest in joining the Shade Tree Commission.
2. Minutes from October 2015 were amended and approved with corrections. Heather will email minutes to Blair to post on Borough website.
3. Kris Hasbrook is working on CFMP 2015-2020. Deadline is December 31, 2015. STC members are asked to read the plan and return with their thoughts for the final draft.
4. All Prune and Removals and walking surveys for 2015 are complete. Kris will meet Consuelo at DPW to view areas as designated for review by arborist. STC is planting 4 new trees this winter.
5. STC received monies from the Green Communities Grant. Congratulations to Consuelo for seeking and receiving grant funds to pay Kris Hasbrook. A Borough resolution was passed last Monday to pay Kris Hasbrook for his work on the 2015-2020 CFMP.
6. Core training 2015 revealed only 30% of NJ Borough's use a Shade Tree Commission. Chris C. shared a letter with STC members regarding his thoughts on the Core Training, and Sandy Batty shared her Core folder of information and CD's for members to review and use as reference in the future. Sandy and Chris are currently CORE certified. CORE training follows the person and does not stay with the Borough.
7. Consuelo currently has earned 4 CEU's and has reached her maximum for the 2015 year. STC needs 4 more CEU's from other STC members. It was suggested for 2016 CEU's to invite an arborist to speak to members.
8. The Borough Council sent Commission Chairs letters encouraging regular postings for website.
9. Fundraising goals were discussed. Borough attorney quoted and stated a state regulation gives STC opportunity to raise monies. Options as discussed included contest or survey, donate now button on STC website, Memorials, Holiday Gifts, Birthday Gifts. Topic tabled for future discussion.
10. Goals for 2016 to be discussed at December 2015 meeting.

Meeting adjourned 7:23pm

**Next Meeting December 10th, 2015
6 pm Borough Hall**

Respectfully submitted: Heather Scott

