

Shade Tree Commission

Minutes

January 10, 2011

Present: Dorothy Rasmussen, Lauren Rabinowitz, Tracey Gelber, Cher Krumins-Beens, Frank Ferrera, Maggie Manzo, Ushantha Govender

Meeting was called to order at 7:04PM by Dorothy and seconded by Tracey

- December 2010 minutes were discussed, one change, Lauren's contact for not for profit status is a member of the Cultural Arts Commission, not Environmental. This change will be made and the minutes unanimously approved. Tracey advised the group that minutes will be written up and emailed to all so they can be read and updates made prior to the meeting.
- Introductions of new members were made, contact list drawn up. Tracey to send to all members via email.
- Nominations for officers were made.
 - George Fromm nominated to Chairperson position by Tracey Gelber, seconded by Frank Ferrera and unanimously approved by the group.
 - Tracey Gelber nominated to Secretary position by Dorothy Rasmussen, seconded by Ushantha Govender and unanimously approved by the group.
- Shade Tree Commission projects were described to the membership. Members were asked for their interest in heading up these projects.
 - Tree City USA – Maggie Manzo and Lauren Rabinowitz
 - Arbor Day – Ushantha Govender and Tracey Gelber
 - Country Fair – Frank Ferrera and all commission members
 - Web/Outreach – Cher Krumins-Beens and Lauren Rabinowitz
- Shade Tree needs to get an article to the Metuchen Messenger for the next edition. Tracey will read up about tree stressors in urban areas and submit an article to Kathy Harris @ the Borough Clerk's office.
- Core Training was discussed; new members will need to go for training at next opportunity in October. Tracey to bring in some materials she has regarding training for the next meeting.
- Resident, Jonathan Miller (33 Bisset Place, 732-549-3042) stopped by and would like a tree planted at his residence. He would like to be included in this year's planting. Commission members were also advised to forward any requests they receive for trees to George for follow up.
- Budget Plan for 2011 – Will need to follow up next meeting when George is back. The commission has confirmed we will only have one planting this year; it will take place this spring. Cher noted that as trees are better planted in the fall, can we buy put out the RFP and pay for

the planting now but then schedule the planting for the fall? Will discuss when George returns next meeting.

- Lauren will follow up with members of the Cultural Commission on how they applied for and received not for profit status.
- Tracey noted that she had reached out to the webmaster for the borough website to get the minutes up to date and she has not yet received a response back. Dorothy noted the website is getting an upgrade and there may be no updates until that is complete. Dorothy will check for us.
- All new members signed and said the Oath to be members of The Shade Tree Commission for Metuchen Borough.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 14, 2011 at 7:00PM.
- Meeting was adjourned by Tracey at 7:47PM and seconded by Lauren.