



METUCHEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION

BOROUGH HALL • 500 MAIN STREET • METUCHEN, NJ 08840

Minutes: July 9, 2012

Present: Tracey Gelber, Cher Krumins-Beens, Franklin Ferrara, Ushantha Govender, Maggie Manza and Dorothy Rasmussen

Meeting Called to Order: 7:08PM by Tracey Gelber, seconded by Franklin Ferrara

Homeowner Visit – Patricia Y. Crouse from 65 Henry st. (Corner of Barnstable) verbal and written requests for permission to remove older trees from her property (at her own expense and will replant with STC approved tree) and trim oak trees that are over hanging her roof. Next step: Tracey will follow-up with Patricia with the next two weeks.

Review of last minutes –Approved 1st by Maggie Manza and 2nd by Ushantha Govender

Tree Funds – Fund remains at \$5,725. Owner at 20 Aldreich will be removing trees (\$275 will be contributed to fund per tree removed) Once finalize removal the fund will be increased by owner.

Fall Planting – Current bid letter is for 30 trees. Final tree may be increased based on bid response and budget availability. Need to determine if should continue to plant on the wire side of street or should rework how STC plants trees. Members will revisit in September to make decision prior to planting in Fall. Public works would like a pre-planting list for review.

Tree Inventory – Future walk about will be scheduled for the Fall. Dorothy spoke with public works about trees at 65, 82, and 92 Essex. She will continue to try and reach homeowners at 2 Grant Court about over mulched trees.

Conrail Update – Continue to work to get trees replaced but we were informed that no planting is planned in the near future for Metuchen.

Country Fair – Theme this year is “Gardens” scheduled for Oct. 6. Ushantha and Franklin will be going to plan and present ideas/needs at July meeting.

Mayor Report – No reports

Fall NJ Shade Tree Federation Conference Meeting – Crown Plaza in Cherry Hill Oct. 26 & 27 Members that need Core Training will be scheduled to attend will have 2 attend on Friday and 2 on Saturday. Tracey will be email to confirm details.

Library Bulleting Board - Cher will work on visual for Oct. Board.

Fall Metuchen Messenger Article- Linnae will contact them to determine if we need another article to be written.

Mail - Letter from Riches Tree Service from South Plainfield has State contract and reached out to Metuchen STC. Dorothy will provide letter to Bill Borth for consideration.

Other Town Reviews – George is requesting STC members review the Highland Park route 27 replant for consideration for our town. Members will review over the next month and discuss at September meeting. If possible, also review other towns and get examples of what we like for Metuchen consideration.

STC Tree Plaque Promo – Will work-up a description of “Tree of Life” Program for consideration to incorporate into our page on the town website. Tracey will develop write-up for submission to web master.

Next Meeting: No meeting will be held in August. Following meeting will be held September 10 @ 7PM

Meeting Adjourned: 7:55 by Ushantha Govender and seconded by Maggie Manza