



METUCHEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION

BOROUGH HALL • 500 MAIN STREET • METUCHEN, NJ 08840

Minutes: May 14, 2012

Present: George Fromm, Tracey Gelber, Cher Krumins-Beens, Linnae Bulun, Franklin Ferrara, Ushantha Govender, and Dorothy Rasmussen

Meeting Called to Order: 7:07PM by Tracey Gelber, seconded, by Cher Krumins-Beens

Review of last minutes – Made requested edit. Approved 1st by Ushantha and 2nd by Linnae

Funds - check for \$275 total of \$5,725 is currently in the Tree Fund

Home Owner request - list was reviewed currently at four an additional three more residents added to the list at meeting.

Tree Inventory – utilized a phone App named “Qosina” does caliber and “Smart Measure” to determine better tree locations to update the current system. Last walk about team finished Amboy Street. We will need at least another 4 streets to be reviewed. Next outing will be scheduled for May 27th at 10am to work on Essex Street.

George will provide the new list of tree planted to Ushantha for updating the Inventory.

Metuchen High School Cultural Club – Tuesday June 5 @ 8AM dedication ceremony for planting.

Arbor Day – Tree planting was a success with Miss Pata (4th Grade Class). Maggie and Franklin did planting of Japanese Maple by playground. Read mayor proclamation gave explanation of importance of tree. Kids were very excited by program. School requested that maybe we could do a 2X a year instead of just once a year. Parents have taken responsibility for keeping watered.

Borough Hall Tree Plaque program – Plaque had 2nd name added to board and George will give to Bill to be placed in Borough Hall. George will provide marketing letter to Tracey for getting approval from Bill for distribution. Dorothy will provide scrapbook for recording keeping of tree placements at June meeting.

Mayor Report – Concerned about the tree trimming conducted by the PSEG and addressed town concern but would not agree to be less aggressive on future trimmings. PSE&G staff provided suggestions for future plantings. Dorothy requested to be given previous warning that trimming is going to be conducted. Mayor is going to follow up with town attorney to see if there can be required reimbursements for trees they trim or remove. STC (Tracey & George) will conduct research on how other towns deal with PSE&G trimmings.

Replacement Trees - Bill Boerth open to recommendations STC made last month and will follow-up with town lawyer to move program forward

STC Email Request - Tracey requested that the Borough staff be educated that STC is not the main contact for tree removal but that they be directed to Public works. Dorothy will request the website be clearer who should be called for what.

Fall Planting – George will work the next two months on getting that process of Fall planting started. Tracey will contact Bill to make sure he is aware.

STC Flyer program - Cher & George were unable to meet-up will follow-up at later date.

Next Meeting: June 11 @ 7PM - No STC meeting will be conducted in August.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:09 by Franklin Ferrera and seconded by Ushantha Govender