METUCHEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION
BOROUGH HALL • 500 MAIN STREET • METUCHEN, NJ 08840

Minutes: Oct. 22, 2013

Present: Dorothy Rasmussen, Tracey Gelber, Cher Krumins-Beens, Linnae Bulum, Ushentha Govender, and Maggie Manza

Meeting Called to Order: 7:05PM by Ushentha Govender and seconded by Cher Krumins-Beens

Review of last minutes: Approved 1st by Linnae Bulum ara and 2nd by Maggie Manza

Follow-up:

- **Membership Cards from NJShade tree Federation** –Tracey and Linnae cards are still pending are still pending.
- **Tree Funds** – Dorothy will request that prior to meeting Becky, CFO will place in Shade Tree mail box for review.
- **Country Fair** – Very pleased with Honor Mention Award - Will be submitting receipts for reimbursement for craft items & trees to Bill this week.
- **Tree plaque outreach update** –Dorothy gave permission to allow outside help for PR of the program.
- **Creation of Permit System** –Council has no objection to what we have proposed and we are free to proceed. Maggie will follow-up with Chris for next steps.
- **Commission T-shirts** – We were unable to print for Fall Fair but we will move forward with printing of shirts for future use.
- **Shade tree USA Status** – We received stickers showing membership but still have not received confirmation or understanding as to why we are not listed on website. Tracey will continue to research
- **NJ Shade Tree Federation Training** – DPW will be utilizing 2 of our spots. 2 remaining spots are being considered by membership. Tracey to follow-up with George regarding who is able to attended.
- **Fall Planting** – Planting be prepared for Wednesday Oct. 23rd
    - Not planting 4 trees that were planned we'll considered using those trees at Metuchen HS and park locations.
        - 94 Amboy Ave- Is on the list to get a tree during Fall planting but she is very unpleased with the idea. STC approving her request to not have tree planted by her house and we'll find a different location.
        - 399 Central & 52 Eggert got returned Mail for the letters that were sent informing them of tree planting. Dorothy going to research existence of street location.

New Business:

- Dorothy got approval for a secretary position to be allowed to help commission. George has a person interested and have names from Metuchen Street Fair for consideration. STC to review candidates at Nov. meeting.
- 164 Maple – New house being built has a tree requirement that would place a shade tree under wires. Dorothy suggested that tree be planted across the street as a solution. STC approves this solutions and/or fund reimbursement to town. Tracey to send communication to Chris.
- Construction Issues being raised by George:
    - 50 Christol – homeowner requested recommendation of appropriate tree for placement but we have been unable to reach agreement with town vs. resident. To facilitate quick resolution STC is recommending to have Chris request resident pay $275 in lieu of tree planting on her property and funds will used to plant at different location in town.
- 311 Durham Ave – Shade Tree Hit by a car. Ushentha to review and update system.
- For Spring planting want to consider a more personal approach to tree location selection. In the coming months STC will look to create process for future tree planting selection.
    - Reviewing list from Metuchen Street Fair for Tree request
    - Hillside Ave – Fred Schmitt would like replacement tree for tree lost during Sandy requesting a Pear Tree but STC is no longer planting Pears so will provide a more appropriate selection.
    - 40 Linden (Cuite) – Requesting a tree. She will be placed on list for spring planting.
    - 2 Talmadge – Requesting pruning of damaged tree during Sandy. STC is sending request to Fred Hall
    - Dorothy would like us to consider further planting of Aylin Street for the spring.

Next Meeting: TUESDAY, November 26 @ 7PM; there will be no meeting held December 2013. STC meetings to resume Tuesday, January 28th @ 7PM

Meeting Adjourned: 7:59 1st by Ushentha Govender & 2nd by Linnae Bulum