



METUCHEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION

BOROUGH HALL • 500 MAIN STREET • METUCHEN, NJ 08840

PUBLIC MEETING

September 19, 2015 – 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Dorothy Rasmussen, Maggie Manza, Lisa Gallina, Christine Von der Linn, Todd Pagel, Ushantha Govender, Linnae Bulum and Franklin Ferrara

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER/QUORUM at 7:06pm

1st Todd and 2nd Linnae

2. APPROVAL OF AUGUST MINUTES

1st Franks and Lisa 2nd.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Dave Bonaventure at 81 Lake Avenue joined Shade Tree Commission to express concern about three trees on his property. He states last month a large limb fell on his son-in-law's car. He stated that wife has called Public Works and was informed that he is on the list for tree removal. He spoke to Fred Hall about 3 months ago regarding removal. Mr. Bonaventure says his main concern is safety of people. Shade Tree Commission members viewed the property via Google maps. Mr. Bonaventure wants to know about the laws regarding tree management. He was advised to look at zoning laws under the Metuchen Code book at metuchenj.org/government and to discuss the Metuchen laws regarding tree removal with the zoning officer and/or the borough administrator.
- Jennifer Maier joined the meeting and stated that the Metuchen Borough presently does not have the staff and the budget to manage all tree removal. Presently the town is concentrating on the removal of the most hazardous trees. Jennifer Maier has the tree list and states the list goes back to 2007. She advises homeowners to put their names on the list. Ms. Maier wants to remind homeowners that they can receive a permit from the town for permission to remove or trim a tree. Ms. Maier will contact Mr. Dave Bonaventure personally.

4. FALL PLANTING

- LOCATIONS: There are three home owner requests. Maggie discussed possible locations with Chris Cosenza, he thinks Central Avenue should be considered, and he is looking into other possibilities, such as Lake Avenue
- Todd contacted Princeton's STC, to regarding their tree management and planting procedures. Their arborist will contact Todd to discuss.
- Christine spoke with Bartlett, regarding tree options for Main street.
- BUDGET – anticipated \$5,410

5. FALL COUNTRY FAIR: OCTOBER 3rd

- DESIGN: Design ideas were discussed to meet the theme of Boardwalk Arcade.

- SCHEDULE: Reviewed assignments for the day.
 - Want to include tree pruning/removal permit and information on what trees have been removed within the month.
- 6. NJ SHADE TREE FEDERATION CONFERENCE: OCTOBER 23-24TH**
- Need to register by October 16th, Todd and Lisa will consider attending.
- 7. UPDATES/ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**
- Christine is updating the Fall Management plan for website.
- 8. ADJOURNMENT:**
- Adjournment at 9:06 pm by Christine 1st and Linnae 2nd.
 - Next Meeting scheduled for October 14th, 2015 at 7pm at Borough Hall