



METUCHEN SHADE TREE COMMISSION

BOROUGH HALL • 500 MAIN STREET • METUCHEN, NJ 08840

- Tuesday, March 2, 2021, via Zoom teleconference 7:00 pm
- Attendees: Councilwoman, Dorothy Rasmussen, Liaison; Ruchir Mewawala, Nadiah Cheatham, Thomas Thompson, and Amy Dees
- CALL TO ORDER- 7:16 pm. Dorothy Rasmussen led Zoom call and opened the meeting a bit late as a quorum was sought but not attained
- Feb 2, 2021 Minutes: Dorothy asked if the Feb 2021 minutes had been recorded and sent to all commissioners for review. All members acknowledged and accepted the minutes. The minutes were recorded and sent to Susan Jackson by Tom Thompson
- PUBLIC COMMENT – No public attendees for March 2021
- BUSINESS / DISCUSSION – Amy remarked on log in problems using Zoom, others may be having difficulties also. We decided that we'll improve using Zoom as we use it more often. Ruchir asked if the minutes can be recorded using Google docs to keep the same platform as other Shade Tree data. We agreed this can be done using our combined efforts going forward
 - Dorothy spoke of our Annual Accomplishments Report being late for submission in part due to the COVID Pandemic, but is not causing serious a problem at this moment. That said Commissioners MUST review their contributions for 2020 including time spent on meetings, walk-about or other project work with the Metuchen Shade Tree Commission. This is very important so PLEASE send your response quickly! Our information is combined with other Borough accomplishments and goes towards receiving funding
 - Dorothy also added that our Forestry Plan is current
 - Nadiah added that there is a virtual CORE Training available on line and to register by 3/8/2021. She'll send the link to the commission so interested members can take this training class scheduled during the end of March; details to follow. Dorothy said we are looking for 5 attendees including DPW employees and Shade Tree commissioners
 - Amy will send the most recent Google doc containing the Metuchen Shade Tree list of 'Dangerous Tree' locations for our review. Nadiah suggested that we focus on the dangerous trees moving forward
 - Amy and Dorothy spoke about trees requested by the public. Tree requests may be filled but we must ensure the trees are planted correctly in proper locations, with careful consideration to ensure the best value for our efforts and expenses. Care of these trees is to be provided by the residents
 - Please check your email for the upcoming training.
 - Upcoming Shade Tree meetings will be conducted remotely via Zoom until further notice. Thank you for your attention to following all safety and social distancing best practices
- ADJOURNMENT- Motion to adjourn was made by Dorothy at 7:50 PM, meeting concluded

The next 2021 Metuchen STC Meeting via Zoom:
April 6, 2021 at 7:00 pm