

Mountain Lakes Shade Tree Commission
Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2024

Present: Sandy Batty, Dan Amato, Lucas Stelling, Doren Greene, Cath Mitchell, Louise Miniter (student liaison)

Welcome Student Member - Louise Miniter!

June 2024 Minutes - Passed as written

Tree ROW Inspections - Need to get our walks done before the leaves begin to turn. Louise expressed an interest in partnering with another STC member to get acquainted with the process - Sandy offered to help here. Dan offered to review the excel master file and clean up some of the extraneous data.

STC agreed to complete their walks by the next meeting (October)

Arborist - STC expressed some concern about the current arborist, responsiveness and effectiveness. STC is considering seeking out another arborist. Sandy has the contact information for two other arborists. Sandy and Lucas agreed to coordinate an interview process if STC pursues a new arborist. STC Phyllis may know another arborist. Doren will reach out to Phyllis for the contact information.

Tree Planting Publicity - Environmental Commission is doing another newsletter/flyer. Sandy expressed an interest in putting in a paragraph about residents requesting a tree and that process. Lucas mentioned including something about not piling much up around a tree. STC discussed putting something in the Borough blast as well. STC discussed putting something in about vines on trees as well.

CEUs - STC currently has 4.5 CEUs. Sandy sent out information about the annual conference, taking place in Atlantic City this year. There are some courses with CEUs that can be taken online. STC discussed pursuing these opportunities. STC also discussed using STC meetings to have someone come in during and give a presentation to earn CEUs. Sandy mentioned that it would just need to be approved by the NJDEP. STC planned to do the presentation meeting potentially next year.

CEUs are calendar-year based and STCs have an annual requirement of 8 CEUs each year.

Dan will follow up on the two Ordinance webinars - he attended the sessions, but the NJ DEP does not reflect the CEU credits for Mountain Lakes STC.

Liaison Reports -

1. High School - Louise offered to share information with Morris Knolls, since that is where she attends high school.

2. Environmental Commission - Member not present
3. Woodlands Committee - Off for the summer, meeting next week. Will keep the STC posted if anything happens.

Other Business - Lucas mentioned he is going to get started on tree planting in October.

Meeting concluded at 8:05 PM EST
Minutes taken by Dan Amato

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