

Mountain Lakes Shade Tree Commission

November 13th
Meeting by Zoom

Present: Sandy Batty, Doren Greene, Lucas Stelling, Cath Mitchell, Marnie Vyff
Kalvin Lee (Student Rep)

Absent: Dan Amato, Phyllis Deering, Chris Cannon, Louise Minitier (Student Rep)

October Minutes were passed as written. Moved by Doren, 2nd Marnie, all in favor

Tree Planting

Sandy said Lucas has been working hard to locate the new sites. The STC information on the Borough Blast produced a fairly good response.

Lucas has checked sites and there are still some places on the Boulevard. However, concerns about the drought this year have resulted in delays for scheduling the marking of underground utilities & getting Cerbo's to plant.

Because of the tight deadline, the STC decided that planting should be postponed.

STC members voted unanimously that planting should be done in Fall of 2025.

Sandy will send an email to the residents who requested a tree that these will be planted next Fall and she will notify the Garden Club which also requested a tree.

Expenditure Budget

Sandy explained that the Education Budget is higher this year due to training of a DPW worker. There was a question as to whether STC should be paying for this or if it should be a DPW expense.

*Sandy is going to reach out to Jean Epiphan, the arborist from Rutgers Extension Service to see if she could come to one of our meetings to talk to us, which would help with CEUs next year.

*Consultant line: Arborist John Linson is interested in looking at our trees and writing our Community Forestry Management Plan.

*Removal of vines may be another line in the Budget. We would need to get an estimate for this (DPW guys, paid by the hour) and also look into professionals who deal with poison ivy, which would be an occupational hazard.

Tree Inspections

Sandy thanked us all for submitting our tree inspections.

Marnie mentioned she did a Dendrology course at Duke Farms for CEUs that was very interesting.

High School Report

Kalvin had nothing to report except concern about the smell of smoke all through the High School from fires in the area.

Green Team

Marnie reported that they were awarded another Silver Certificate this year which was in part due to STC so we were to be congratulated as well.

Meeting closed at 7:53pm