

## **Mountain Lakes Shade Tree Commission Meeting**

November 12, 2025 - 7 PM

**In Attendance:** Sandy Batty, Dan Amato, Phyllis Deering, Roxanne Tavakkol, Marnie Vuff, Doren Greene, Tony Forman, Cath Mitchell, and Student Liaison Calvin Lee

**Approval of October Minutes** - Passed as written

**Community Forestry Management Plan** - Continuing to seek out a consultant. The arborist walked around town with STC member Sandy. STC Roxanne offered to reach out to other consultants to submit a proposal for the CFMP.

**Tree Inventory 2025 Recommendations & Future Schedule** - Sandy submitted to DPW and Mitchell Stern. Sandy marked trees to come down with white paint and trees to prune with blue tape. Lauren Barnett (Mayor of Mountain Lakes) looked at Lyman Wilson Park on the Boulevard directly across the firehouse to plant a tree in honor of Joe Mulaney. STC discussed working to identify the trees there and notate them somehow - either with a tag or a plaque or something else. STC Student Liaison Calvin offered to start to help identify the trees. Need to figure out how to get labels or something printed using the common name and the Latin name. Considering working with Maker Space at the Public Library or the school with a 3D printer. Calvin is following up.

The arborist identified a few trees at Island Beach that need to be either removed or pruned at least. STC should aim to have their inventory completed sooner next year so that work can be coordinated earlier.

**Tree Planting** - STC members Brianna and Sandy went out and marked 13 locations in town for tree plantings, and 3 at Island Beach, and a few more around Borough Hall. Phyllis brought up the trees that still need to be planted for Lucas, Chris, and the principal of Wildwood. STC discussed tree plantings under wires and choosing species that stay relatively low. Cerbo's would like to plant on November 25, so STC needs to finalize locations so utilities can be marked out. Sandy confirmed the tree for Chris Capodanno is scheduled to be planted.

**Enforcement of Tree Ordinance** - \$9,600 will be contributed to the Mountain Lakes STC Tree Fund as a result of a homeowner not following the ordinance with appropriate permits.

**Zoom Meeting on Beech Leaf Disease** - Scheduled for Wednesday November 19, 2025 at 7:30 PM. STC is co-sponsoring with the Woodlands Committee. It will be a Zoom presentation. Beech Leaf Disease will kill our Beeches if left untreated. And there is no guarantee that treatment will work to resolve the affected trees.

**Other Business** - STC discussed following up on their inventory to make sure any identify any work has actually been completed. STC member Roxanne attended the NJ Shade Tree conference and shared some slides about the highlights from the conference. (slides attached).

Minutes taken by Dan Amato

