



Metuchen Shade Tree Commission – Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2022

Attending: Dorothy Rasmussen, Bettina Caluori, Ken Sammond, Jeremy Campbell

Not Attending: Tim Brosnan, Ruchir Mewawala

Members of the public: Saeryon Park, and Alvin Nazario.

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm.

Spring Planting

- Jeremy provided a list for the plantings by name and address. When will it be finalized? Jeremy or Dorothy should reach out to Brian Lewis in DPW.
- We should provide a cheat sheet for owners on how to care for their trees. Ken Sammond will create based on a pre-existing standard from another town.
- Future requests for trees should be directed to the Shade Tree council liaison.

Farmers Market Outreach

- Scheduled for October 22, 2022. Jeremy will drop off the new pamphlets to us to distribute to attendees.
- Bettina and Ken will run the table.
- Two clipboards: 1) I want a tree 2) questions about other information
- We should create a handout showing the kinds of trees available.

Memorial Plantings

- Dorothy stated that there is a process to plant trees in someone's memory. There have been two requests for alumni from Metuchen HS → what should the role of the Board of Education be>
- If you lose a loved one, Funeral home can promote a memorial planting
- You can celebrate an event with a planting

Arbor Day

- We should reach out to schools about tree plantings at their schools.
- We discussed a bit about how to have such a competition with such different school levels (High school to elementary). Contest requires some thought (ideas about what it is to have a competition). Teachers have to buy into the whole sense of the competition.
- Perhaps Ms. Kato, the environmental sciences teacher, can incorporate it into her curriculum.
- We have to also consider the best way to plant trees in relation to buildings.
- Also, we should have Brian Lewis participate in the project.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.