

- MARLBORO TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

Minutes from February 24, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Administrative Complex, Room 1

Meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Ellen Simonetti at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call was taken:

Joanna Boretti—present

Patricia Cleary--present

Terry Ebert-- present

Mary Eng- present

Elliot Gross-- present

Beth Hutter-- not present

Bob Mellert-- present

Pat Ondar-- present

Ellen Simonetti-- present

Shari Spero – CME Associates—not present

Iqleen Viridi, Councilwoman—not present

Opening Statement was entered into the record by Ellen Simonetti, chairperson:

As the presiding officer of this meeting of the Marlboro Shade Tree Committee, I hereby declare that the notice requirements in accordance with the provisions of the open meeting law chapter 21, P.L. 1995 has been provided in accordance with the annual notice procedures of C 10.428 of said Act. I further order that this public announcement be placed in the minutes of this meeting.

The minutes of the October 21, 2024, meeting were approved as published.

Committee Report:

1. The chair reported that Terry Ebert and Ellen Simonetti have renewed their oath of office. Pat Ondar will renew hers shortly.
2. The NJUCF/Tree City requirements have been completed for 2024. The next Five Year Plan, required for continuing membership in these organizations has been changed to include a tree inventory on all public lands. It must be conducted by a Licensed Tree Expert (LTE). This requirement falls outside the scope of our committee and will be overseen by the township.
3. Marlboro's Arbor Day celebration will be at the Arboretum on April 26 at 10:00 a.m. Ellen Simonetti will order a weeping willow as the Township's contribution to the celebration.

Marlboro's Tree Canopy

1. The Chair asked if there were any comments regarding omissions in the last tree removal permit process, and there were none. The Committee wishes to extend its thanks to Andreia Gomes for providing this information in a timely fashion. No one at the meeting was aware of any tree removals that were not on the list of permits granted.
2. Ellen Simonetti has contacted several home-owners groups from a list provided by the Marlboro Community Development Department.
3. The Pleasant Valley Beech and several other trees on that property are to be pruned under the direction of Marlboro's DPW.
4. No feedback about replanting trees at Greenbriar was available for discussion. Patricia Cleary noted that the tree replacement fund is separate from the township budgeting process and is not dependent on the usual budgetary calendar.

Arboretum

1. Bob Mellert completed a survey for ArbNet, the certifying agency for the arboretum. The recertification process for inclusion in the program is currently being modified and will be forwarded to member arboreta soon.
2. Tours of the arboretum for the general public have been scheduled for May and October. The first date is May 29 (rain date May 30) at 10:00 a.m. The October date will be changed, since the originally proposed date, as noted by Terry Ebert, conflicts with Yom Kippur.

Community Garden

1. A new computerized application process has been implemented. Under the new system all but six returning gardeners have paid their garden fee. Presently there are 22 spaces available and 24 new applications. Orientation for the new applicants will be March 30 and April 5 at 2:00 p.m. in the garden.
2. Tours of the Community Garden will be offered to the general public on May 5 (rain date May 6) and September 25 (rain date September 26) at 10:00 a.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 23, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment was at 7:30 p.m.

