

MARLBORO TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMITTEE  
Minutes from May 20, 2019, 7:30 PM  
Administrative Complex, Room 1

Meeting was called to order by Ellen Simonetti at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call was taken:

Joanne Boretti -- Present

Mary Eng – Present

Elliot Gross -- Not Present

Beth Hutter – Present

Bob Mellert-- Present

Pat Ondar – Present

Ellen Simonetti – Present

Shari Spero – CME Associates -- Not Present

Randi Marder – Councilperson –Not Present

Juanita Lamaute—Guest

Venkatesh Patrachari--Guest

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 from the April meeting were approved.

#### Chair's Report

1. Ellen Simonetti reported that Juanita Lamaute's application to join the Marlboro Shade Tree Committee is in process.
2. Ellen introduced Venkatesh Patrachari, who is a possible candidate to fill the last remaining open seat on the committee.
3. JCP&L will be doing tree pruning around the electric powerlines during the summer, and Mr. Jon Capp will keep Ellen informed of their schedule.
4. Ellen updated the committee on Mayor Hornik's letter regarding the

township's successful efforts to prohibit a tree chipping service from establishing a location on Tennent Road in an area that is zoned as residential.

5. On Saturday, June 1, an Honor Court will confer the title of Eagle Scout on Joseph Raza, whose project was to construct two rinsing sinks in the Marlboro Community Garden.

6. As of this evening's meeting, the Shade Tree Committee has contributed over 470 hours of volunteer service to the township.

### Old Business

The committee did a post mortem on the Shade Tree Committee's participation in the Memorial Day parade on May 19. Several of the four committee members who participated expressed disappointment with the size of the crowd and the lack of participants in the march. They were grateful to Adam Hutter, Beth's husband, for driving his vintage Chevrolet in the parade as part of the Shade Tree Committee. Mary Eng appreciated the feedback and said that the committee's concerns will be taken into account when planning next year's event.

### New Business

1. Six members of the community garden have volunteered to water the Arbor Day plantings of trees adjacent to the garden.

2. The former Stattle's Market property, now part of the township's Open Space initiative, on the corner of Routes 79 and 520, will officially open as the Marlboro Farm Market on Sunday, June 30, at 11:00 a.m. It will be open for business every Sunday during the growing season. For the grand opening, the Shade Tree Committee will have a table at which literature will be distributed about the benefits of planting trees.

3. Joanne Boretti expressed her concern that many trees in the township are being cut down without the necessary permit. She suggested that this be called to the attention of the Town Council to see what can be done about enforcing this regulation and requiring homeowners to replace trees that have been removed. Joanne agreed to draft a letter to the Town Council on behalf of the Committee and present it at the next meeting.

### Community Garden

1. The pergola project is now complete, except for a final inspection. The

scouts from Marlboro Troop 85 erected the structure in the cut-out area in the front of the garden.

2. A proposal made by local artist and community garden member, Mira Welnowska, to place some appropriate pieces of sculpture in the garden is still pending.

3. The first food donation from the community garden to a local food pantry took place last week.

4. Pat Ondar alerted Ellen that the hose nozzle at station B is malfunctioning and needs to be replaced. She also asked that the gardeners be warned about an invasion of Colorado Potato Beetles on susceptible crops.

4. Ellen announced that the garden spent about \$300 to purchase plants for the pollinator garden, the perennial garden, the communal herb garden, and the Monarch Butterfly waystation.

5. The garden's first pot-luck of the season will be on Saturday, June 15, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. under the new pergola.

Next meeting

Our next meeting date is Monday, June 24, at 7:30 p.m. in the Administration Complex, Room 2.

Adjournment was at 8:15 p.m.