



## Meeting Notes

November 29, 2018 6:30-8:00

**Michael G. Perkins Community Center**, 47 Academy Avenue, Middletown, NY 10940

**Attendees:** *Barbara Bonham, Renee Stover, Kirsten Gabrielsen, Mary Ellen O'Neill, Alan Lewis*

## Old Business

### Update on the Maple Hill Dog Park:

- An order, which includes trees (5), landscape fabric, anchor pins and cedar posts, has been submitted to Jansen's in Florida, NY. This order will use any unused monies from the 2018 budget. The 2018 budget has been closed out.
- Various benches have been installed by the City.
- An undisclosed donor has donated funds to cover expenses for walkway materials and alle' trees.

### Volunteer hours:

- Kirsten has created an Excel sheet to help keep track of Shade Tree members' volunteer hours. To date, members have volunteered approximately 285 hours in 2018

## New Business

### Tree City Recertification:

- Barbara has been working on the Tree City application with the Mayor and City.
- Application is due 12/31/18 and will include a Proclamation from the Mayor.
- A news article will be submitted the Times Herald Record to satisfy the requirement for an "Arbor Day Press Release".
- Tree City designation will allow for access to better grant opportunities.

### Priorities (goals and ideas) for 2019:

The Committee discussed possible workshops, community partners, and locations for activities.

- Workshop ideas include: Tree Selection/Planting (in connection with Arbor Day) – April at Maple Hill Dog Park  
Proper Pruning Techniques – Sept/Oct at Davidge Park Pavillion,  
Invasive Pests – May, partner with CCE
- Community Partners: Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Audubon Society  
SUNY Orange and SUNY Orange Sustainability
- Other activities: Earth Day Celebration and SUNY Orange – April 18  
Arbor Day Celebration – April/May  
National Night-Out Against Crime event in Middletown – August 2019

2019 Budget: \$5,800 has been requested. \$ 1,800 is included for tree maintenance. A vote will take place at the next City Council meeting.

ReLeaf Conference; Barbara reminded everyone to mark their calendars for July 18-20, 2019. The Conference will take place at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh. Registration costs will be covered for members as a budgeted item.

**NEXT MEETING:** December 27. Location TBA. Meeting will consist of celebration and recap of 2018.

Respectfully submitted by, Kirsten Gabrielsen

*Cc'd: Mayor Joseph DeStefano, John Naumchik City Clerk, Middletown Shade Tree Committee, Superintendent of Parks Christine Brinckerhoff, Jacob Tawil DPW Commissioner.*