



Meeting Notes for July 25, 2019 meeting (held at Thrall Park).

Attendees: Barbara Bonham, Renee Stover, Mary Ellen O’Neill, Alan Lewis.
5-6 PM with a work session from 6- 7PM

Old Business

- **Arbor Day Celebration** at Davidge Park on 9/28/19 from 11 AM -1 PM
 - Some confirmations continue to be pending. Alan will check with Dan to see if he can spend some time doing a pruning demo, we still need to purchase a Sycamore for the planting demo. Barbara will let Rec & Parks Commission know we plan to plant a Sycamore by Frank Shorter Way at Davidge Park.
 - Barbara will send date and time to Cornell cooperative Extension so we can get some Master Gardeners to table on that date.
 - Mary Ellen is ordering some tree related playing cards. We will use some to raffle at different events.
 - Need to select a Sycamore tree to plant (preferably one which is in a pot) for proper tree planting techniques.
 - Next meeting on August 29th @ 5 will be at the Perkin’s building on Academy Avenue so we can organize what we will use for the Arbor Day Celebration.
- Dog Park
 - Mary Ellen came up with a great idea for an adopt-a-tree system to encourage residents using the dog park to help the city by filling the gators. We now have laminated instructions requesting help to fill the gators and gallon jugs are available to use to fill gators.
- ReLeaf Conference July 18-20
 - A successful conference with over 170 attendees.
 - There will be another round of grants coming out tentatively in October. The goal is to get some specifics about the need for specific maintenance in some of our pars using TreeKeeper to identify the trees so that the people awarding grants will be able to see the sites via Google maps. There will be a follow-up talk on the grant being held in Newburgh

New Business

- Night out Against Crime
 - **Work Session for Night Out Against Crime August 6th from 6- 8 PM.** (it shouldn’t take that long)
 - We will review items for tabling. (ie: 10 year Tree City Flag and Shade Tree banner)
 - Barbara sent in the registration form for the Middletown Shade Tree Committee. She will bring a table and 4 chairs to the site at Thrall Park.
- Reviewed tri-fold Shade Tree informational brochure. Barbara will get a quote from Chester Printing. Kirsten offered to print some for us but we will see what stock Chester Printing has and decide so we can have some literature regarding Shade Tree available. Maybe we can have some brochures printed by Kirsten for Night Out.
 - Renee will cross check list of wire-friendly trees and shrubs.

The remaining time at this meeting was used to access the trees at Thrall Park. One tree is struggling and is a candidate for removal. The overall assessment is that the trees are in need a of a cherry picker and some cleaning up but the overall health of the trees is good. The park needs another picnic table and more benches, the spruces by the horse fountain should be pruned back to accent the historical horse watering fountain. All trees could use some weeding and mulch around the bases. Suggestions for maintenance and/or removal will be inputted in the City’s TreeKeeper inventory.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday August 29th Perkin’s building Academy 47 Academy Avenue to organize what we will use to

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Bonham