



Meeting Notes

February 26, 2020 @ 5 Mulberry House Senior Center
62-70 West Main Street, Middletown, New York 10940 (upstairs)

Attendees: Barbara Bonham, Kate Honders, Mary Ellen O'Neill, Fred Isseks, Kirsten Gabrielsen, Felice Dong
(Middletown HS Key Club President)

Old Business

- Dana Herm School District update – There is interest in participating in the Arbor Day poster contest but time allowance and logistics are difficult for teachers.
- Identifying home owners for trees – Barbara suggested using the software “Energy Saving Trees” to assist community members as they consider tree plantings on their properties. Barbara shared a link (see below) to webinar explaining how to set up a program so homeowners can obtain trees. She asked that members acquaint themselves with the program. The "Energy Saving Trees” program is also known as the "Community Canopy". <https://www.arborday.org/programs/energy-saving-trees/overview.cfm>

New Business

- Arbor Day Celebration for 2020 – Discussion continued regarding where we could potentially plant a native paw-paw tree. Barbara is waiting to hear back from the Maple Hill school who had initially seemed perceptive to a tree planting event on their grounds. After further discussion, we identified another potential site, the newly opened Rec Center on Rt. 78. Fred Isseks will reach out to folks involved with the Saturday Art Quest programming to see if we might be able to collaborate on an Arbor Day/tree planting event on April 25. We will invite Key Club members from the High School to help out with the event.
- Parks Department’s after school programs – The department is interested in offering some other after-school programs so maybe we can have them work on an Arbor Day Poster for next year? They would be willing to exhibit the posters at the parks department.
- Bank of America Grant- Discussion – Barbara thanked members, in particular Mary Ellen and Kirsten, who helped out with the grant application. It was successfully submitted on 2/21/2020.
- Fourteenth Annual Tree City/Line/Campus U.S.A. Recognition Ceremony Thursday, March 19th
Mary Ellen and Barbara will travel to Albany for the Recognition Ceremony.

Open Forum

- Mary Ellen asked about the progress of the work at the Cemetery. Fred indicated that a lot of ideas are being shared about it’s future. A clean-up event may be scheduled for this spring.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday March 25th @ 5:00 the Mulberry House Senior Center 62-70 West Main Street, Middletown, NY

Respectfully submitted, Kirsten Gabrielsen