

Bernards Township Shade Tree Commission

March 15, 2023

Call to Order at 7:00 PM

Roll Call:

Present: Randy Santoro, Tom Nicoletti, Kate Creegan, Al Werner, Gregory Axt, Cindy Aiken, Nick Fetchko

Absent: Frank Goodhart, Jack Gray, Jim Baldassare

Previous Month's Minutes

- approved

Bills/Correspondence

- none

Arbor Day / Charter Day

- Arbor Day – 200 trees were approved by the State Nursery, will be giving away at the Environmental Center on 4/28. We will need to pick up the trees and pot them like we did in 2022.
- Charter Day – May 20th. Randy has the application, Al will be the contact as Randy will be unavailable that day. Cindy, Nick and Kate will be available to help, Randy and Al will gather everything needed during that week. If any trees remain from Arbor Day, they can be given away at Charter Day.

Education Report

- Al attended the Garden State Tree Conference and thought the seminars were very good. Nick also attended and thought the discussions of drought, PH and nutrients was good.
- The Invasive Strike Force conference will be on 4/19 at Duke Farms.

Tree Removals/Prunings/Plantings

- Our Contractor removed large trees on Winding Lane, Hardscrabble Rd, Wayne Terrace and Fairview.
- Tom will have Moosewood remove a large Oak tree near S. Alward that should be removed by the State (backs up to 287), but they declined.
- Al mentioned many Ash trees in the Cedars have been removed, he has met with their landscape committee to be sure new trees are planted properly.

Public Comments

- none.

Old Business

- discussed Garden Club project – Jen Gander approved 10 Oak trees to go in to the upper parking lot at Pleasant Valley Park, project would be done in the Fall, after the new lights are installed. The Garden Club will pay half, directly to the nursery.
- We were approved for Tree City USA 18th year.

- Randy has spoken with the Township Planner about the project being reviewed at 150 Allen Road.

New Business

- Judy gave out paper copies of the Monthly newsletter – Randy will share link for members to read online.

Commissioners Zones:

- o 1 Cindy
- o 2 Randy, Kate
- o 3 Randy
- o 4 Jack
- o 5 Al
- o 6 Jack
- o 7 Nick
- o 8 Greg

Adjournment – 8:05 PM
Next meeting – April 12, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy O’Connell
Secretary