

Bernards Township Shade Tree Commission

April 14, 2021

Hybrid Meeting = Owen Conference Room (OC) and Zoom (Z)

Call to Order at 7:00 PM

Roll Call:

OC: Randy Santoro, Jack Gray, Gregory Axt, Al Werner (7:30 PM).

Z: Cindy Aiken, Kate Creegan, Linda Sims, Scott Kessel, Frank Goodhart, Ryan Wallace.

Absent: Jim Baldassare

Public Meeting Statement

Public Comments

- none

Previous Month's Minutes

- Approved

Bills/Correspondence

- Copied on letter from Pete Lagola (Engineering Dept) to Spring Ridge about requirements for removing trees.
- Emails about Spring planting project at Liberty Corner School.
- Email from Tina DelGiorno seeking advice on what type of saplings for the Jr. Women's Club of Bernardsville to distribute for Earth Day.

Arbor Day

- We will plant 2 trees at the Playground at Liberty Corner School.
- Ryan will get the trees, Judy will prepare the Purchase Order.
- We will have a tree "Drive through Give Away" on May 1 at Pleasant Valley Park lower parking lot. Al will pickup the seedlings, and Commissioners will help pot then. Kate will work on publicity.

Charter Day

- Looking forward for 2022!

Education Report

- Randy attended Tree City USA virtual conference (part 3 of 3); thought the training was very good.
- Al attended virtual Garden State Tree Conference, enjoyed program, wide range of topics and he will get CEU's.
- Shade Tree Federation is hoping to have in person conference in the fall – will probably be in Atlantic City.

Tree Removals/Prunings/Plantings

- Ryan reported on various pruning and removals throughout Township.
- A resident asked for a tree at E Craig and Ellis to be looked at – it has a crack but seems to be in good health.
- DPW will look at a large red maple near the West Oak St and Washington Ave
- Jack mentioned 10-12 ash trees on Valley Road near the VA, Ryan will advise the County.

Old Business

- Tree City USA approved for Year 16, sign stickers need to be applied – Randy will send an email with locations of signs.
- Judy reminded everyone about the mandatory Anti Harassment training – needs to be complete and sign off sheet to Judy.

New Business

- Randy mentioned updating the Township tree map this summer.
- Commissioners Zones:
 - o 1 Cindy
 - o 2 Randy, Kate
 - o 3 Randy, Linda
 - o 4 Jack, Scott
 - o 5 Al
 - o 6 Jack
 - o 7 Frank
 - o 8 Greg

Adjournment – 8:05 PM

Next meeting – Wednesday, May 12 – Owen Conference Room and Zoom at 7:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy O’Connell
Secretary