

Bernards Township Shade Tree Commission Minutes
November 12, 2008 7:15 PM
Town Hall Conference Room

- 1. Call to Order**
 - The meeting was called to order by Randy at 7:20 PM.
- 2. Roll Call - Present: Randy Santoro, Mark Harabedian, Dave Ferratti, Fred Burgerhoff, Jack Gray, Charlie Cunion, Terri Laird, Chris McManemin. Absent: Scott Spitzer, Judy O'Connell.**
- 3. Minutes from October**
 - Reviewed and accepted.
- 4. Bills/Purchase Orders**
 - NJ Shade Tree Federation meeting - travel expenses for STC members
 - P.O. approved for Forestry Management Plan consulting fees by Dave Welsh.
 - P.O. approved for \$1,860 for trees planted by DPW on King George.
- 5. Correspondence**
 - None to report.
- 6. Grant Report (Green Communities)**
 - No update.
- 7. Charter Day (May 17)**
 - No update.
- 8. Arbor Day (April 26)**
 - No update.
- 9. Education Report**
 - 7 credits were obtained by STC members at the Oct 24-26 NJSTF Conference.
 - DPW staff attended a pesticide training seminar, which will give us the 8 required credits needed to maintain approved status with the Forestry Management Plan.
 - Dave Welsh asked if STC members would like to have him conduct a joint tree ID class with the Long Hill STC members. Randy will coordinate details with Dave and pass information along via email. Randy will also see if we can ask Bernardsville STC members as well.
- 10. New Tree Plantings**
 - Fall planting by Parker Landscaping will be conducted the 2nd week of Dec or sooner.
 - 40 new trees and 1 replacement tree is scheduled for planting.
 - Randy will send Tony at Parker a final list for mark-outs with crossroads.
 - STC members agreed that based on past experience with Parker and same nursery source as in prior year, that Dave Welsh wouldn't be needed to inspect trees at nursery prior to planting. Charlie offered to inspect trees at Mt. Park location prior to planting.
 - Chris will check with Jennifer at Parks Department for staging trees at Mt. Park.
 - Randy will ask Parker not to install stakes, as well as confirm size of hole for planting.
 - Randy will email STC members Parkers install schedule once known. DPW will accompany Parker when plantings are conducted.

- Chris will confirm placement of new tree planting at 105 Cross Road.
- Mark will contact Burd resident for tree placement on North Maple.
- Randy brought material regarding an Elm Tree Planting Program (betterflowers.com) by the Elm Research Institute. Randy will review the grant and complete application if it makes business sense and has no pre-conditions.

11. Tree Removals/Prunings

- DPW will check tree at 156 Finley for possible pruning.
- Chris will examine tree and speak to resident at 97 Haas Road for possible take down.
- Dave F. will review ROW measurements for sugar maple tree at 3446 Valley Road. DPW will contact County for take down if within ROW.

12. Updated Community Forestry Plan

- Mark will check on status of grant money submission with Bernard's Township Accounting Department.

13. Budget

- 2009 Budget for STC was submitted with no increase in funds requested.

14. Subcommittees

- Mark will email Jackson County Clerk again, on status of law suit regarding tree ordinance being heard by the State Supreme Court. Outcome of this will impact the direction on re-writing tree ordinances.

15. Old Business

- K&J Landscapers' finally replaced the trees at Paws Park. Thanks to Chris for hounding them until replacement was completed.
- Jack has compiled an "approved tree list" – Judy will type it and post to our website and send to Chuck Drews in Engineering. (Carryover from prior month)
- Randy contacted two possible alternates for the STC. Both candidates were interested and plan to attend December's meeting.

16. New Business

- Randy was notified that each committee was allocated holiday funds for "light" refreshments. Fred will coordinate the catering for the "light" refreshments at the December 10 meeting. STC members will arrive at 6:30pm, for holiday cheer, prior to the start of the regular meeting at 7:15pm.
- DPW will purchase from this year's budget, a 300 gallon water tank to assist with watering new plantings.
- It was noted that an agenda item in March/April should include a status report of fall plantings. The STC Members should conduct a drive-by of fall plantings in their zone for warranty purposes.

15. Next Meeting: December 10, 2008 at 7:15. (6:30pm for light refreshments)

16. Adjournment: 9:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Mark Harabedian
Vice-Chairman**