

Bernards Township Shade Tree Commission Minutes
April 14, 2010 7:30 PM
Town Hall Conference Room

- 1. Call to Order**
 - Called to order at 7:35 -- welcomed new member Al Pettitt.
- 2. Roll Call**

Present: Fred Burgerhoff , Dave Ferratti, Jack Gray, Mark Harabedian, Terri Laird, Chris McManemin, Randy Santoro, Al Pettitt, Jonathan Vidler, Michael Viola. Absent: Carolyn Gaziano
- 3. Minutes from March**
 - Approved (thanks to Michael!).
- 4. Public Comment**
 - None.
- 5. Bills/Purchase Orders**
 - Randy signed the purchase orders for the Liberty Elm (to be located at Sons of Liberty Farm); Jack's bio-comp for the Haas Rd project; Membership for the Shade Tree Federation; tree identification tags; and LP Statile (spring plantings)
 - Jack's expenses for the Haas Road project were approved (miscellaneous supplies from Home Depot and mileage reimbursement for picking up the seedlings in Jackson).
- 6. Correspondence**
 - none.
- 7. Grant Report**
 - per Joseph Bennett, everything has been approved, should receive check soon.
- 8. Charter Day (May 15, 2010)**
 - will recognize Charlie's service to the Commission.
 - Peter Vogel (our Eagle Scout – Haas Rd project) will have a presentation; leftover seedlings will be available to residents.
 - Jack will have a Bio-Diversity presentation.
 - volunteers for setting up / taking down and “manning” the booth are needed.
- 9. Arbor Day (April 24)**
 - Arbor Day resolution was approved by the TC on 4/13.
 - Michael will read the Liberty Tree by Thomas Paine; Jonathan will read the plaque.
 - Mayor's wellness walk will follow the dedication of the Liberty Elm.
 - Dave will have the plaque installed.
- 10. Education Report**
 - shared information about the October training with Al.

11. New Tree Plantings / Recent Tree Plantings

- 12 Hackberry trees have been delivered to Ridge High School; they should be planted this week (school vacation). Jack has already marked out the area; Fred will send email.
- Jack will flag out 3 trees on Valley Road; Randy will flag out others – let Dave know when complete.
- Haas Rd project – about 240 seedlings were planted and watered; may want to plant more in a year or 2.

12. Tree Removals/Prunings

- Pruning around the Township will take place once we receive the Stimulus Grant funds

13. Sub Committee Reports

- nothing to report.

14. Old Business

- watching the copper beech tree at Town Hall – may want to have replacement by nursery with 5 year warrantee (either late fall or early next year)
- Randy has received the list of native trees from the Environmental Commission; he will review and update.

15. New Business / Member Comments

- Randy was contacted by resident in Patriot Mews (the Hills) – to assess their trees. The resident was on the Homeowners' Association Landscape Committee.
- Chris was contacted by Jim DeCoste about the Oak trees on Oak Street (he would like to see more planted).
- Jack discussed research from the Frelinghuysen Arboretum about trees which were balled and burlapped – 10 years later the root system was still ball shape.
- new laws coming about fertilizer requirements (need soil test before applying wide spectrum fertilizer) – Dave Welch from Cascade will share information.

16. Next Meeting: May 12, 2010 at 7:30.

17. Adjournment

9:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Judy O'Connell
Secretary**