

Bernards Township Shade Tree Commission
May 10, 2017 6:00 PM

Call to Order

Called to order at 6:10 PM.

Roll Call

Present: Fred Burgerhoff, Frank Goodhart, Randy Santoro, Cindy Aiken, Al Werner, Jim Ferratti, Jack Gray, Mike Zaidel, Linda Sims, Sam Burd. Absent: John Malay.

Minutes from last month

- Approved.

Bills/Correspondence

- Purchase Order approved for Al's mileage in his pursuit of Arbor Day seedlings.
- Resident at 15 Rankin Ave has asked that his tree be evaluated – will be pruned.
- Resident at 3 Hampton – tree will be removed.

Education Report

- No updates.

Arbor Day / Five in 5

- Arbor Day celebration successful – trees distributed at Environmental Education Center – Mike, Al, Jack and Randy participated; many thanks to Al for hunting down the trees in Jackson!
- Frank donated Cypress trees for distribution.
- About 20-30 people attended the 5000th tree dedication in Pleasant Valley Park – thanks to Back to Nature for the Oak Tree Donation.

Tree Removals/Prunings/Plantings

- See above for Rankin and Hampton pruning/removals.
- Discussed proposed planting project at Stone House and South Finley; Township would prefer to clean up some of the fallen trees then keep as open space.
- We will discuss planting projects in Township Parks at June meeting.
- 3 Ash trees near Rocky Lane have been removed; 2 removed at Pleasant Valley Pool.
- Tree contractor will be in Town next week – will look at trees at Meeker, Rankin and Firehouse.

Old Business

- Sam mentioned that the Emerald Ash Borer has reached Middlesex, but is not here yet.
- We will co-host a presentation on May 24 at the Bernards Township Library – we will publicize at Charter Day and post on the Website.
- Basking Ridge Oak tree was taken down during the last week of April – estimated to be 162,000 pounds! The last piece of the trunk removed was 48,000 pounds.
- Randy has not heard from Steve Chisholm yet about working on our 5 year plan.

New Business / Member Comments

- Congratulations to our 2 new appointees – Linda and Sam!
- We may need a special meeting for discussion of the 5 Year Plan – we will also appoint a subcommittee – probably at our June meeting.

Charter Day

- Judy gave parking permit to Al; Fred will pick up the tent and brochures from Town Hall.
- Volunteers needed!

Public Comments

- none.

Zone Assignments:

1 – Mike / Cindy	5 – Al
2 – Fred	6 - Jack
3 – Randy	7 - Frank
4 –Al	8 - ??

Adjournment – 7:15 PM

Next meeting – Wednesday, June 14, 2017 – 7:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy O’Connell - Secretary