

Bernards Township Shade Tree Commission

March 10, 2021

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

Call to Order at 7:00 PM

Roll Call:

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

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

Absent: Jim Baldassare

Previous Month's Minutes

- Approved

Bills/Correspondence

- Email from Dominic Rello (18 Cottage St, Basking Ridge) asking about ash trees near his home – Al and Ryan will take a look next week.
- Email from Kelly Targett asking about suggestions for saplings to be distributed to students at Liberty Corner School (Judy forwarded to Jack and Randy).
- Email from Korie Caruso, PTO Member from Liberty Corner school; would like a flowering tree near the new playground – Randy will coordinate site visit when it is complete.
- Al submitted an invoice for Garden State Tree Conference (\$250)

Arbor Day

- (see above for planting at Liberty Corner school).
- Randy applied for 200 trees from State (EEC is not going to participate) – he will reach out to Jen Gander about arranging a drive through event at Pleasant Valley Park.
- Arbor Day Resolution will be on 3/23 Township Committee agenda.

Charter Day

- Looking forward for 2022!

Education Report

- Randy attended Tree City USA virtual conference (part 2 of 3); thought the training was very good.
- Discussed a possible project of “Sick Tree Day” – may sign up at Charter Day for tree advice.

Tree Removals/Prunings/Plantings

- Not much activity due to snow work throughout the township.
- Planting of the “donation tree” will take place in the spring – Ryan has been researching vendors – Al will check stock before DPW picks up.

Old Business

- Annual report was approved by Township Committee and submitted to State and Tree City USA.

New Business

- Greg mentioned the cicadas coming this year – start in May! Randy asked Greg to write up something about the effects on trees.
- Judy mentioned the required anti-harassment training that all must complete this year – Judy will send out the links and find out if there will be any “live” classes.
- 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 – 7:50 PM

Next meeting – Wednesday, April 14 – Owen Conference Room and Zoom at 7:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy O’Connell
Secretary