

**Bernards Township Shade Tree Commission**  
**November 15, 2023**

**Call to Order at 7:00 PM**

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Randy Santoro, Al Werner, Jack Gray, Nick Fetchko, Kate Creegan, Tom Nicoletti  
**Absent:** Frank Goodhart, Jim Baldassare, Cindy Aiken, Gregory Axt

**Public Comments:**

- none.

**Previous Month's Minutes**

- approved

**Bills/Correspondence**

- Signed PO's for Tree Symposium and Gino's Nursery for the Library project.

**Arbor Day / Charter Day**

- Next Charter Day will be May 18, 2024

**Education Report**

- Nick & Al went to the Shade Tree Federation Conference, discussed programs.
- Randy is tracking our CEU's for the Tree City USA requirements.
- Al attended Dendrology workshop at Duke Farms.

**Tree Removals/Prunings/Plantings**

- Tom reported various prunings / removals throughout the Township.
- Tom also mentioned that the island at Pleasant Valley Park will not have electric, but we should hold off until spring and DPW will get the utility mark outs.
- Al mentioned the Cedars planted trees around the development, but he felt they were planted too deep, the Contractor agreed to remediate the issue.

**Old Business**

- Randy discussed the DEP's Tree Ordinance recommendation, we will discuss further in 2024.
- Cindy agreed to help Randy with the Tree City USA application and Annual Report, even though she is resigning from the Commission.

**New Business**

- We will begin our December meeting at 6:30 with Holiday treats.
- Randy will share the Volunteer Appreciation invitation with Kate & Nick – they had not received it.

Adjournment – 7:45 PM

Next meeting – December 13, 2023

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Judy O'Connell**

**Secretary**