

Bernards Township Shade Tree Commission

January 13, 2021

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

Call to Order at 7:00 PM

Roll Call:

OC: Randy Santoro, Ryan Wallace, Jack Gray, Gregory Axt.

Z: Frank Goodhart, Cindy Aiken, Kate Creegan, Al Werner, Linda Sims, Scott Kessel.

Absent: Jim Baldassare

We welcomed our 2 new members – Gregory Axt and Scott Kessel.

Election of 2021 Officers:

- Randy was elected Chair; Al elected Vice-Chair
- Al was reappointed to the Township's Tree Protection Committee

Previous Month's Minutes

- Approved (September approved; November approved with correction)

Bills/Correspondence

- None.

Arbor Day

- Will be last Friday in April, probably will not be able to do much this year.

Charter Day

- Not aware of any 2021 decision yet.

Education Report

- Two years remaining on our Five Year Plan – need to work on a Township Tree Inventory
- The Annual report to the Township Committee is due, as are the Shade Tree Federation and Tree City USA – will work on and approve for next meeting.
- There free webinars from Tree City USA in February
- Jack would still like to conduct a tree planting seminar – will work out the details by fall.
- Frank has more articles for the website, he will end to me

Tree Removals/Prunings/Plantings

- Ryan reported that damage from the November 15 storm is being worked on – many removals, trimming and pruning ongoing.
- Planting of the “donation tree” will take place in the spring.

New Business

- The eight 2019 stickers have been placed on our Tree City USA signs.
- Randy explained the Zones and Commissioner duties to our new members.
- Discussed the need not to “reply all” on various emails to avoid being misconstrued as on “offline” meeting.
- Agreed that 2021 meeting will begin at 7:00 PM – on the second Wednesday following the first Monday of each month.

Adjournment – 7:57 PM

Next meeting – Wednesday, February 10 – Owen Conference Room and Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy O’Connell
Secretary