

Long Hill Township Shade Tree Commission

Minutes from Zoom Meeting

March 22, 2021

Attendees: Ann Cade, Theresa Dill, Al Gallo, Mary Ellen Grunther, Susan Jeans, Paul Tamburri, and Mary DeLello (recorder).

Absent: Phyllis Fast, Peter O'Neill, Guy Piserchia, and Gordon Redgate
Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Susan.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Spring Challenge Grant** – 14 trees ordered; Susan has not been to houses/sites. Anyone on the Commission who would like to be a part of the site location, please contact Susan. Paul has 4 trees paperwork so far. The cost of trees will have to be raised before the next planting season – probably to \$225. Last day to order is April 12th. Planting will be middle to end of April.
2. **Budget 2021** – There will be a vote on the budget on April 14, 2021. Susan and Gordon have met with members of the Township Committee to plan and discuss budget.
3. **Valley Road Project** – Trees will be planted between Morristown Rd. and Warren Ave. It was planned as project for this Spring but postponed until Spring of 2022. First permission is needed from Morris County and property owners to plant trees.
4. **Tree City Update** – Township achieved Tree City Status and will soon be receiving a sign.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Oath of Office** – Theresa Dill and Mary Ellen Grunther will sign their oaths of office and will drop signed copies off at the Township office.
2. **Purchase Order – John Linson** – Two versions of budgeting were suggested by Nancy Malool; a blanket purchase order through Randy Bahr or a fixed amount set aside in our budget. In either case, John Linson would have to submit an invoice for his time. Both ways would work in case of an emergency. Al suggested an open quarterly purchase order.
3. **Boy Scout Project** – Thomas Osmond wants to plant 56 trees as Eagle Scout Project. Thirty-two sites selected to include school properties, community center, some sites around town, the park by the Stirling Train Station, and the hill that was cleared in Kantor Park. The hill in Kantor Park was cleared of underbrush and dead ash trees. JCP&L will be planting 5 Arborvitae on hill in Kantor Park. Girl Scouts may plant some trees in the Hicks Tract. Al suggested trees could be planted around Stirling Lake and near fishing pond where trees were lost in previous storms.
4. **Sapling Tree Project** – not ordered this year.
5. **Lantern Fly Article** – Ann and Susan will complete and article will be submitted to papers once Challenge Grant is done.
6. **Arbor Day** – April 30th. Al suggested planting an oak by the playground. Also need proclamation.
7. **Princeton Elm** – Mary Ellen will look in to the Princeton Elm and possible programs for planting the elms.
8. **Spiro Koutsogiannis of Parthenon Realty** – Spiro owns a number of properties in town including Walgreens and Santander Bank. Susan suggested someone on the Commission could get in touch with Spiro and suggest he buy challenge grant trees for these properties. Al suggested going through Megan.

Paul made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05, Mary Ellen seconded, all in favor.

►Next meeting: **Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 PM, location to be determined.**

Submitted by Mary DeLello, Recorder