

# Long Hill Township Shade Tree Commission

## Minutes from January 24, 2022

**Attendees:** Ann Cade, Phyllis Fast, Al Gallo, Mary Ellen Grunther, Susan Jeans, Gordon Redgate, Paul Tamburri, and Mary DeLello (recorder).

**Absent:** Peter O'Neill and Guy Piserchia

Meeting called to order at 7:02 by Susan.

**Oaths of Office – Phyllis Fast** – was sworn in by Susan as a Shade Tree Commission Member for a five-year term 1/24/22 – 12/31/26.

Gordon moved to accept the minutes from the November 29, 2021 meeting, Mary Ellen seconded, all in favor.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. **Landmark Tree Project** – is on pause until the trees have leaves for pictures. Project has been approved and Susan will speak to Randy Barr to confirm the project will move forward.

2. **Tree Ordinance Enforcement** –

No movement on Chase Bank property because Alec has been out ill. There will be a summons issued and hopefully a fine levied. Ann had questions on the procedure in getting the letter with tree removal application information to homeowner. Susan outlined the first step is to contact Megan with address and ask if homeowner has filled out an application. If homeowner has not filled out an application, STC member would go out and determine if the tree to be removed is an Ash. STC member would ask homeowner if they have completed application and direct them to how to complete the application. If the tree to be removed is on the homeowner's property, Susan will go out to inspect. If the tree to be removed is a street tree, Alec will go out to inspect.

Discussion on procedure for STC to be notified of decisions from Planning Board on tree removals. Either Megan or Deborah should notify Susan of Planning Board decisions.

Mary will send out letter to homeowner to STC members.

3. **2022 Budget** – Susan filled out all the forms and submitted same budget and also submitted special projects that need to be approved by the Township Committee. The budget for the approved special projects does not come out of the STC budget.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. **NJ Urban and Community Forestry Annual Accomplishment Report** – completed and submitted on 12/31/21.

2. **Tree City USA Recertification** – completed report was signed by Guy Piserchia and submitted last week.

3. **Community Tree Recovery Program** – is a good community outreach program and can be done with a minimum number of trees. We need to bundle saplings with one of each species included but not sure what species are yet. Saplings can be stored at DPW and distribution can be either at the DPW or the Community Building location. April 23<sup>rd</sup> is the targeted date and the hours would be from 9am – noon. Ann, Paul, and Phyllis volunteered. We will be advising people on where to plant and possibly suggesting people plant the sapling in pot and then transplant. Susan will approach Randy for funding. Program will be advertised in an article placed in the paper and on the Township website.

4. **Great Swamp** – hosting sessions via Zoom on Tuesday nights. These one-hour sessions discuss using native plants in landscaping, pollinators, and the Great Swamp plant sale. If

one registers for a session, the recorded session can be taken anytime. Susan will contact the Great Swamp with names of STC members interested in registering for sessions.

Gordon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55, Theresa seconded, all in favor.

►Next meeting: **Monday, February 28, 2022 at 7:00 PM, location to be determined.**

Submitted by Mary DeLello, Recorder