

## Hanover Township Shade Tree Advisory Board

The monthly meeting of the Shade Tree Advisory Board was held on Monday, April 29, 2024, at 5:00 pm in the Township office building. In attendance were Blair Bates, Jane Cook, Michele Kane, and Marianne Rivera.

1. The **minutes** of the March 2024 meeting were approved with no changes.
2. **Update on Missing Street Trees:** Marianne reported that six expiring tree permits were checked this week and all six trees had been planted! Until the Board of Supervisors makes the changes, no letters will be sent out regarding missing trees, etc. Residents' complaints about hazard trees will be followed up and checked out. We will wait until mid-summer, after the trees have leafed out, to determine whether a tree of concern needs to be removed.
3. **Landscape plans from Hanover Engineering:** Blair has received none this month.
4. **Community Orchard update:** Two residents signed up at the Arbor Day event as being interested in helping with a Community Orchard in the area to the south of the new pool area and west of the volleyball court. This item was tabled until a future meeting.
5. **Arbor Day event: Saturday, April 27, 2024:** Marianne reported that this event, the second annual Arbor Day celebration, was a success, with more attendees and better weather than last year, when it had to be held indoors due to the rain. It was chilly, but many people did attend. At the Hanover Elementary tree ceremony at 10:30, Jean Versteeg read the proclamation that cited the approval by the Arbor Day Foundation that Hanover Township, Northampton County, is now officially a Tree City USA. Many people spent a lot of time and effort to meet his goal, and the beautiful plaque signifying this accomplishment was on display at the school yard and at the Community Center. Two street signs will be installed at a future date and place, to be decided. About 30 people, including children and adults, attended the ceremony and then went to the Community Center for the displays and activities. Maggie George helped with the coloring activities and the seed-planting, and two local nurseries had displays, along with Monocacy Farm Project. The guitarist/vocalist provided background music for entertainment. The cupcakes were enjoyed, and people appreciated receiving the free tree seedlings from Joshua Tree. Marianne also pointed out that BASD students can get Community Service credit by volunteering at this event next year, and we will follow up on that to get more volunteers for the activity tables. We will also try to get additional giveaways and encourage the landscape services to give a modest discount to people who attend the Arbor Day event and use the landscaper for future work. We will also do more marketing/advertising to get the word out prior to next year's event and will check the Arbor Day website to get additional ideas for more activities for families and kids.
6. **New Business:** none
7. **The next Shade Tree Advisory Board meeting:** The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, May 20, 2024, at **5:30 pm** in the Township meeting room. (This is a change because the last Monday in May is Memorial Day.) The date of May 20 does already appear on the Township calendar, so no changes need to be made there.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Jane Cook