



**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP  
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

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**MEETING MINUTES**  
February 18, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Shade Tree Commission was held at 7:30 PM, Wednesday, February 18, 2015, in the Montgomery Township Building on Stump Road. The members of the Shade Tree Commission in attendance included: Roy Rodriguez, Rich Roller, and Mary Brock. Also present: Marianne McConnell, Deputy Zoning Officer; Judy Stern-Goldstein, Boucher & James; Greg Reiff, Parks Foreman; and Michael Fox, Board Liaison.

**Reorganization / Officer Election:** The members unanimously elected Roy Rodriguez as Chairman of the Commission and Rich Roller as Vice-Chairman for 2015.

**Approval of Minutes:** On a motion made by Mary Brock and seconded by Roy Rodriguez, the minutes from the November 2014 meeting were approved as submitted.

**Public Comment:** none

**Correspondence:** none

**Meadow at Memorial Grove update:** Gary Gimbert of NLT attended the meeting to update and advise the Commission in regards to the status of the meadow, future options, and maintenance. The invasives are currently under control. It was discussed that the area will not support a warm grasses only meadow. The warm grass seed mix was planted twice and will not fully take. They have grown, but only in some sections of the meadow. It was recommended to introduce cool season grasses and to change the mowing schedule to invigorate growth. Other species discussed to introduce into the meadow were milkweed, to attract monarch butterflies, and golden rod. Mr. Gimbert recommended that we keep what is there and add sporadically different mixes to bare patches. The seed mix costs approximately \$20 - \$25 per pound and can be easily spread by the Public Works employees. It was concluded that the site will dictate what type of meadow will flourish and its purpose (visual, pollinator, bird habitat...).

**Update on Projects:**

Land Development – The Commission was updated on the following projects: Fairway 202 Associates, BJ's fueling station Conditional Use and plan review, Maple Brook Estates tree protection fencing, Parkview at Montgomery plan review, Maple Drive and Crystal Road plan review, North Wales Crossing Waiver of Land Development request.

Shade Tree Projects – No update at this time.

## **Old Business:**

Growing Greener Award Application – A copy of the application submitted was provided to the Shade Tree members.

Invasives Quote for Windlestrae Park (63 acres) – A quote was received by Eastern Forest Consultants and we are awaiting a second quote from Land and Forest for the eradication of invasives within 63 acres of Windlestrae Park (MU1 and MU2 areas of the Forestry Management Plan). It is possible that there are DCNR grants available to cover some of the costs of this project.

## **New Business:**

Arbor Day 2015 – Arbor Day will be held Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> this year. 275 trees have been ordered for the annual give-away.

Beech Tree for Community Center - The quote obtained to relocate the large beech tree from Sal's Nursery to the Community Center is \$16,000. The tree must be relocated while it is dormant, therefore, before the end of March. Due to the fact that the site will not be ready for the installation of the tree yet and unforeseen weather conditions in the next month, the Commission decided to plan for the relocation for next year and include it in the 2016 budget. The Township also has the option to have a smaller tree (up to 8 inch caliper) relocated to the Community Center at no charge.

GIS Mapping – Judy Stern-Goldstein of Boucher & James informed the Commission that they now have the capability of mapping trees to GIS utilizing mini iPads in the field.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm. The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on March 18, 2015 at the Montgomery Township Building.