

# MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION

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## Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes April 17, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Shade Tree Commission was held at 7:30 PM, Wednesday, April 17, 2019, in the Montgomery Township Building on Stump Road. The members of the Shade Tree Commission in attendance included: Roy Rodriguez, Jay Glickman, Rich Roller and Mary Brock. Also present: Bruce Shoupe, Director of Planning & Zoning; Marianne McConnell, Deputy Zoning Officer; Valerie Liggett, Boucher & James; and Greg Reiff, Parks Foreman.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm

**Minutes:** On a motion made by Rich and seconded by Jay, the March 2019 minutes approved as submitted.

Public Comment: none

Correspondence: none

### **Update on Projects / Boucher & James:**

<u>Land Development</u> — The Commission was update on the following projects: Montgomery Retirement Residence Tree Protection Fencing Inspection 3; FedEx Ground Final Plan Review; ProReal Ventures / Car Wash Preliminary Plan Review; Parkview at Montgomery Plan Review; and the 1390 Welsh Road End of Maintenance Inspection.

<u>Shade Tree Projects</u> – The Sugar Maple Grove project end of maintenance period inspection was completed. The trees were determined to be acceptable to end the maintenance period.

#### **Old Business:**

<u>Phase IV</u> – Still in progress, completion deadline is June 20<sup>th</sup>. Knight Bros. Moving along, a little confusing as to method and strategy. No bucket truck or climbers have been seen on the job as of this date. If the project continues to not move forward, a reminder notice will be forwarded to the contractor in early May stating that the deadline is approaching.

<u>Ash Tree Forestry Management Project Phases I, II, III and V</u> – These phases have all been completed.

<u>Ash Tree Forestry Management Project Phase VB</u> – Awarded to Rambo Tree Service in the amount of \$63,750. Currently in progress.

*Phase VI* – Awarded to ProMark Tree Service in the amount of \$49,725.

<u>Phase VII</u> – 355 trees have been marked for felling or removal. A mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled for 4/24 with the bid opening scheduled for 5/1.

<u>2019 Community Forestry Workshop</u> – The event is scheduled for November 1, 2019. Potential Speakers have been contacted and the Community Center is reserved. Starker Wright of Bartlett Tree Experts has secured the keynote speaker, Dr. Campellone. His topic will be trees' role in stormwater management. Valerie Liggett will present as well. Emelie Swackhammer will provide the insect update again this year. A representative from the Department of Agriculture will provide the pesticide regulatory update. Need bios and agenda and credit approvals.

We are looking for breakout session speakers also. Starker Wright will look into a possible speaker and Emelie Swackhammer has been contacted

<u>2019 Spring Planting Project / Memorial Grove Parking lot</u> – On a motion made by Roy and seconded by Rich, the Commission agreed to award All Seasons Landscaping the contract in the amount of \$3600 as submitted.

<u>Arbor Day 2019</u> – Is scheduled for Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Set up will begin at 7:30 am. The event is scheduled to begin at 9am with the reading of the Arbor Day Proclamation by Michael Fox following the handing out of 270 trees to Township residents; one per household. The presentation of the Tree City Certification (22<sup>nd</sup> year) and Growth Award will also take place some time during the event.

<u>Claremont Drive / Bell Run Boulevard</u> – The center islands on Claremont Drive and Bell Run Blvd have been the HOA's responsibility initially, however, they sit within the public right of way. The question has arose as to whether the Township should maintain the trees within these islands. Was it a requirement of the Land Development agreement? Should the Township amend the agreement? Bruce will be researching the land development files as to the center islands and the required maintenance. On a motion made by Jay, and seconded by Roy, the Shade Tree Commission recommends that the Township maintain the trees within the islands located within the public right of way at Bell Run Blvd (Knapp Rd end), Winners Circle and Wethersfield.

#### **New Business:**

<u>STC Member Resignation</u> – Mary Brock has advised the Commission that this will be her last year serving on the Commission. Her term expires at the end of this year and she will not be seeking another term. The members thanked her for her work and expertise over the years and will be working with her this year to update a remaining or new member on the Arbor Day and Community Forestry Workshop preparations.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm. The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on May 15, 2019 at the Montgomery Township Building.