



MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION

1001 STUMP ROAD
MONTGOMERYVILLE, PA 18936-9605
Telephone: 215-393-6920 · Fax: 215-855-1498
www.montgomerytp.org

Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes February 17, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Shade Tree Commission was held virtually via Microsoft Teams at 7:30 pm, Wednesday, February 17, 2021. The members of the Shade Tree Commission in attendance included: Roy Rodriguez, Rich Roller, and Brad Walters. Also present: Marianne McConnell, Deputy Zoning Officer; Bruce Shoupe, Director of Planning & Zoning; Valerie Liggett, Gilmore Associates; and John Antonucci.

Regular Meeting Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm.

Minutes: On a motion made by Rich and seconded by Roy, the January 2021 minutes were approved as submitted.

Public Comment: none

Correspondence: none

Update on Projects / Gilmore Associates:

Land Development – The Commission was updated on the following projects: FireFox escrow release Phase 3; Costco Gasoline Filling Station Land Development and Conditional Use applications are currently under review; Village at Windsor Plans are currently under review; Walnut Knoll minor subdivision; and the Westrum Zoning Text Amendment request.

Shade Tree Projects – to be discussed in Old Business.

Old Business:

Okame Cherry Trees – Doylestown Road – The members reviewed the bid forms and specifications for the project. Quotes will be obtained to install 32 trees along Doylestown Road. These are replacement trees for those that have died over the years and new trees along the Cooper property.

Copper Beech at CRC - A quote from Montgomery Gardens was received for \$5,000 for the delivery and installation of a 20' tall, 8" caliper Reversi European Beech with an 18 month guarantee with the condition that the Township is responsible for supplying the tree with adequate water for the period of the guarantee. A representative of Montgomery Gardening Inc. will be available to consult regarding watering. The Commission members felt this was a fair price for the size of the tree and guarantee. Sal's Nursery will donate a boulder to be installed near the tree to hold the 300th Anniversary of Montgomery Township plaque.

Ash Tree Replacements - The Commission reviewed the tree selections and quantities to replace 25 Ash trees previously removed at the following locations:

- Basin # 25 Summer Ridge - 11 trees
- Basin # 24 County Line and Upper State Rd. - 3 trees
- Basin # 62 Magdalena - 4 trees
- North Wales open space - 2 trees
- Tree Line Drive open space - 3 trees
- Westminster Drive open space - 2 trees

The Commission recommended replacing proposed the October Glory Red Maples with Red Sunset, Autumn flame, or Autumn Blaze. The October Glory can be susceptible to damage. They further discussed specifications for the bid documents.

Act 57 Project Proposal – A business within Montgomery Township was fined by the DEP for air pollution violations. Act 57 requires that, under certain conditions, 25% of the fine to be returned to the municipality to be used for projects that eliminate or reduce air pollution for parks, recreation projects, trails, or open space. The Township has \$33,771.16 available for such projects. A project proposal must be presented to the DEP for approval no later than May 16, 2021. Gilmore Associates research if Friendship Park is a good site for a tree planting project. It was not considered a good location for this proposal as tree plantings are already planned for this site. The Commission discussed Spring Valley Park along the trail system circling the fields to add shade along the walking path.

2021 Arbor Day – The event will be scheduled for Saturday, April 24th. It will be held outdoors at the Township Building Gazebo Park. 200 trees have been ordered for the annual give-away. The Commission discussed ordering the National Arbor Day Foundation coffee packets again this year to distribute to residents as well during the event.

New Business: none

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on March 19, 2020 virtually via Microsoft Teams.