



Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes October 20, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Shade Tree Commission was held at the Township Building at 7:30 pm, Wednesday, October 20, 2021. The members of the Shade Tree Commission in attendance included: Rich Roller, Jay Glickman, Bad Walters, and Michelle Evans. Also present: Marianne McConnell, Deputy Zoning Officer; Valerie Liggett, Gilmore Associates; and Beth Staab, Board Liaison.

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

Minutes: On a motion made by Jay and seconded by Brad, the minutes from the September 2021 meeting was approved as submitted.

Public Comment: Michelle Evans addressed the Commission with some questions that she had been asked by some residents:

1. **Do we have a bamboo ordinance?** No, we looked into several years ago. The Township does not regulate landscaping on private property other than required buffer / street trees. The matter should be addressed between the affected private property owners.
2. **There are a lot of overhanging branches / trees into the sidewalks within the Summer Ridge development.** The Planning & Zoning office will complete a site visit and notify the appropriate properties.

Correspondence: The Township received an email from a resident in regards to the requirement to replace street trees and what enforcement action is taken if trees are not replaced after the property owner is notified. The Commission was asked their opinion and offered the following:

1. Initial notification letter be sent to property owner.
2. 2nd notification – provides property owner 60 or 90 days to replace the dead or removed street tree.
3. Final notification – 30 days to install
 - a. fine the property owner or
 - b. Township reserves the right to install the appropriate tree and bill the property owner.
(replace with a tree in kind or tree selected from approved street tree list would be installed)

On a motion made by Jay and seconded by Brad, the Commission recommends that the BOS approves the recommendations for notification and enforcement of the requirement to replace street trees within the Township.

The Commission also suggested educating and reminding the residents through emails, township web site, eNews...

Update on Projects / Gilmore Associates: Valerie Liggett updated the Commission on the following projects: Fahy Minor Subdivision / 276 Stump Rd; Caliber Car Wash Conditional Use application plan review; Westrum Conditional Use application; Shake Shack Land Development Plan Review; and the End of Maintenance Inspection for the Police & Federal Credit Union was completed.

Old Business:

Copper Beech at CRC – The copper beech has been installed. Watering instructions were provided by the contractor.

2021 Basin Re-inspections – Seventeen basins are in the process of being re- inspected this fall.

2021 Community Forestry Workshop – The workshop is scheduled for November 5th. Registration is open. The deadline is November 2nd. The PA Pesticide Credits were approved.

New Business:

EAC Storm Water Education for residents – Beth Staab advised the Commission that the Environmental Advisory Commission is focusing on providing information to residents on best practices to mitigate storm water issues. The EAC would like the STC to make available to residents rain garden information during their annual tree give away in April.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm. The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on November 17, 2021 at the Township Building.