



**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

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MEETING MINUTES

November 17, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Shade Tree Commission was held at 7:30 pm., Wednesday November 17, 2010, in the Montgomery Township Building on Stump Road. The members of the Shade Tree Commission in attendance included: Roy Rodriguez, Rich Roller, Lisa Ford, and Mary Brock. Also present: Bruce Shoupe, Director of Planning & Zoning; Judy Stern-Goldstein, Boucher & James; Ray Barndt, Parks Foreman; Michael Fox, Board Liaison; and John Antonucci.

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

Public Comment: none

Correspondence: none

Presentation – Natural Lands Trust – Drew Gilchrist, Director:

Mr. Gilchrist reviewed the proposal to establish and provided oversight of a four-acre meadow at Memorial Grove. The proposal for the project includes a five-step process: the development of specifications for the meadow planting, oversight of herbicide application prior to planting (site preparation), oversight of the planting of the seed in the spring of 2011, post-planting meadow monitoring and management, and provide a meadow management workshop for municipal staff.

The estimated cost for their part of this project is \$5,620. This cost does not include the contractor cost for site preparation, planting, and the cost of seeds (approximately \$3,000-\$4,000).

The Commission discussed concerns regarding the protection of the area while the meadow is being created. The residents in the surrounding area will be notified of the project and how to protect it through letters, eNews! blasts and signs. The Commission also discussed establishing the grass first, then adding the meadow mix to reduce initial costs and ensure better protection of the meadow mix seed which is more expensive.

A motion to approve the proposal submitted by Natural Lands Trust in the amount of \$5,620 for their professional services for the oversight and monitoring of the installation of the meadow at Memorial Grove was made by Roy Rodriguez and seconded by Rich Roller. All members approved the motion.

A photo journal of the creation of the meadow is to be completed by Township staff.

Update on Projects – Boucher & James:

Land Development – An update was provided for the current projects within the Township including Keystone Community Church, Ashburn village, and Keystone Homebrew.

Shade Tree Projects – The Fall projects have been completed and the final inspections took place on November 11th. No exceptions were noted. On a motion made by Roy Rodriquez and Seconded by Mary Brock, the Shade Tree Commission accepted the projects and granted approval to begin the 18-month Maintenance Period upon receipt of the Maintenance Bonds for the Usher Lane and Spring Valley Park Project and the Doylestown Road and Memorial Grove Project.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Ashburn Village – The development has landscaping issues outstanding before the end of the maintenance period can be accepted by the Township. The issue regarding the street trees planted by the developer and replaced with flowering trees by the homeowner was discussed with the Shade Tree Commission. The STC decided that they would not hold the developer accountable for the replacement of these trees as they had been replaced a couple of years ago and are established.

2010 Tree City USA and Growth Award Application – The application was reviewed and approved for submittal.

Eagle Scout Projects – The Board would like to commend and recognize at a future Board of Supervisors meeting the Eagle Scouts who volunteered their time and labor in 2010 for projects completed throughout the Township Parks and to Ray Barndt for coordinating these projects.

Training Class – The \$100 expenditure for a training class for two Public Works employees was approved.

December meeting – On a motion made by Roy Rodriguez and seconded by Rich Roller the December 2010 meeting was cancelled.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm. The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on January 19th, 2011 at the Montgomery Township Building.