



MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION

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

MEETING MINUTES

March 16th, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Shade Tree Commission was held at 7:30 PM, Wednesday, March 16th, 2011, in the Montgomery Township Building on Stump Road. The members of the Shade Tree Commission in attendance included: Roy Rodriguez, Rich Roller, Mary Brock, and Lisa Ford. Also present: Marianne McConnell; Deputy Zoning Officer; Judy Stern-Goldstein, Boucher & James; Amy Saylor, Project Coordinator; Michael Fox, Board Liaison and Ray Barndt, Parks Foreman.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion made by Rich Roller and seconded by Mary Brock, the minutes from the February meeting were approved.

Public Comment: none

Correspondence: none

Update on Projects – Boucher & James:

Land Development – The Commission was provided an update on Wireco Worldgroup, INC and Hawthorne Court.

Old Business:

Park and Recreation Plan Update- There were two areas discussed by the Shade Tree Commission with respect to the Park and Recreation Comp Plan. One area was to focus on Passive versus Active Recreation and the second was to consider the future demographics of our community.

Montgomery Township is nearly “built out” and in the near future, the township could experience a change in demographics as its current “young” population matures and leaves the township. This would create less of a demand on active recreation areas and increase the desire for passive recreation. The Shade Tree Commission inquired as to what types of parks and open space will be needed by residents in the next 10 to 15 years.

Should the need for soccer fields and baseball fields diminish in the future, the Shade Tree Commission agreed that these are fields that can be easily planted to create additional shaded areas.

The committee agreed that creating areas in Friendship Park for a gazebo, bocce court and an amphitheater would cater to the township’s maturing residents. The current tennis court at Fellowship Park is also in need of repair or replacement.

Trail connectors at major intersections would help connect neighborhoods to the future trail system and increase the use of the trail systems.

Concern was also raised as to the integrity of tributaries within Montgomery Township parks. Are these banks in need of stream bank stabilization? If so, there is opportunity for projects that can teach residents how to deal with stream bank erosion on residential properties.

Arbor Day- There are several groups that have contacted Montgomery Township and the Shade Tree Commission to express the desire to complete a planting project within the township. They would utilize the trees ordered for the group plantings along with the Arbor Day trees. Currently there are 32 possible trees that will be set aside for these plantings.

Police Department Trees- Judy Stern-Goldstein provided the committee with a plan for the removal and replanting of trees in front of the Police Department.

New Business:

May Meeting Date- The meeting date for the May meeting has been moved up one week to May 11th due to a conflict with several committee members.

Memorial Grove Sponsorship- The commission was informed that Starbucks which is located on Bethlehem Pike, has approached the Township regarding sponsorship.

Plant One Million- Lisa Ford informed the Commission of a program sponsored by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society entitled "Plant One Million", in which they plan to register the planting of one million trees. The counting of trees will begin in April. Lisa will look into the program to see if the trees given away at Arbor Day can be registered with the program.

Contract Growing- Mary Brock discussed contract growing with the committee. Contract growing would be begin three years in advance of acquiring trees and would allow for perpetual ordering. Species and quantity desired would be guaranteed for both Arbor Day and park plantings. Mary Brock will follow up with Octoraro Native Plant Nursery to get further details.

Lansdale Chrysler- The commission discussed the severe tree pruning that occurred at Lansdale Chrysler. Marianne McConnell will check with Bruce Shoupe to see if he has had a conversation with the property owner about the practice.

WREN- The National Land Trust has applied for a grant and would like to use Memorial Grove as a tour site for field naturalization. Ray Barndt will be able to meet the tour on site to review the Townships part in the naturalization.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM. The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on April 20th 2011 at the Montgomery Township Building.