



MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION

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MEETING MINUTES April 15, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Shade Tree Commission was held at 7:30 PM, Wednesday, April 15, 2015, 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 Jay Glickman. Also present: Marianne McConnell, Deputy Zoning Officer; Judy Stern-Goldstein, Boucher & James; and Greg Reiff, Parks Foreman.

Mr. Jay Glickman was formerly introduced and welcomed as a new member of the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Glickman has been a township volunteer over the past years serving on the Open Space Committee and Planning Commission as well.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion made by Rich Roller and seconded by Mary Brock, the minutes from the March 18, 2015 meeting were approved as amended.

Public Comment: John Antonucci brought to the Commission's attention the need for the maple trees along the perimeter of the Knapp Farm development to be limbed up in order to ensure proper growth and to avoid the overcrowding of them into the arborvitae.

Correspondence: The Commission reviewed the emails and photos of the possible EAB infestation into the wooded / wetland areas adjacent to the Winner's Circle development. Due to the fact that EAB has already been confirmed within Montgomery County, the Bureau of Forestry does not conduct a site visit.

Update on Projects:

Land Development – The Commission was updated on the following projects: 776 Bethlehem Pike (no landscape component); BJ's Fueling Station plan review; North Wales Crossing Waiver of Land Development request. There was brief discussion as to revisiting the landscape requirements within the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, specifically in regards to smaller lots or lots being redeveloped. However, it was the Commission's belief that they wish to maintain the quality of life and keep the option available to grant waiver requests or not.

Shade Tree Projects – No update at this time.

Old Business:

Meadow Seeding – The Township has received the new slit seeder equipment and will utilize it for the meadow. The meadow is scheduled to be mowed sometime in May. Boucher & James will be contacted to select the proper seed mix for the site.

Invasives Treatment Education and Public Notification Discussion – The Commission discussed the need to educate and notify the residents of the possible invasives treatment program for the wooded areas of Windlestrae Park. Quotes were obtained for the spraying of herbicides within 63 acres of the park outlined in sections MU1 and MU2 of the forestry management plan for Windlestrae Park. The following issues were discussed:

- Notification to be placed on website to include the dates of spraying and the material safety data sheets on the herbicides being used.
- 63 acres would take approximately 21 days to complete.
- Close the areas to be treated as they are being treated rather than all 63 acres for 21 days. The areas affected include the trails and forested areas. The sports fields should not be affected and can remain open.
- Determine schedule of treatment and which areas are to be treated on which dates
- Map out the progression of the spraying to close and post those areas as they are treated.
- Close the areas to be treated on the dates of treatment and for the length of time required for the herbicide used. (24-48 hours)
- Confirm dates of tournaments for sports leagues to schedule spraying around them.
- Post signage at trail entrances and along the sections of the trails as they are treated. Post signage in park and trail entrances a minimum of two weeks in advance of scheduled spraying.
- Contact township insurance provider (DVIT) for suggestions and requirements of public notification and education.
- Confirm proposed spraying dates. Prefer July into August rather than June into July.
- Send letters to adjacent residents.
- Obtain approval from Board of Supervisors for project and public education / notification procedures.

Arbor Day – Arbor Day will be held on Saturday, April 25th from 9am-noon. Set up will begin at 8am. 275 native trees will be available to be distributed to township residents.

New Business: none

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm. The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on May 20th, 2015 at the Montgomery Township Building.