



MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION

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Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes January 20, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Shade Tree Commission was held virtually via Microsoft Teams at 7:30 pm, Wednesday, January 20, 2021. The members of the Shade Tree Commission in attendance included: Roy Rodriguez, Jay Glickman, Rich Roller, Michelle Evans, and Brad Walters. Also present: Marianne McConnell, Deputy Zoning Officer; Bruce Shoupe, Director of Planning & Zoning; Judy Stern-Goldstein, Gilmore Associates; Greg Reiff, Parks Foreman.

Reorganization:

Chairman: The members unanimously elected Roy Rodriguez as Chairman of the Commission (25th year) on a motion made by Jay Glickman and seconded by Brad Walters. The members unanimously elected Rich Roller as Vice-Chairman on a motion made by Jay Glickman and seconded by Roy Rodriguez.

Regular Meeting Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:50 pm.

Minutes: On a motion made by Roy and seconded by Jay, the October 2020 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: Costco Gasoline Filling Station Plan currently under review; Village at Windsor Plans are currently under review; and the Gateway Shopping Center landscape bond release inspection completed.

Shade Tree Projects – 2018 Ash Tree Replacements / Open Space at Gwynedd Lea Drive and Green Tree Tavern Road – The end of maintenance inspection has been completed. The two dead sycamore trees have been replaced and the project is acceptable to end the maintenance period.

The status charts for Land Development, Replacement Trees, and Shade Tree Projects were reviewed by the Commission as well.

Old Business:

2021 Spring Planting Projects:

Okame Cherry Trees – Doylestown Road – Quotes will be obtained to install 32 trees along Doylestown Road. These are replacements for those that have died over the years and new trees along the Cooper property.

Copper Beech at CRC - A quote from Montgomery Gardens is pending. The contractor is researching the need for a spade as the tree is too large for a crane.

New Business:

2020 Basin Re-Assessments – Fourteen basins were selected to be inspected. These basins entered the naturalized program in 2013 and 2015. The re-assessments were completed to determine their progression and current conditions. A summary of the recommendations was provided and reviewed by the Commission. Some maintenance issues included removal of accumulated debris, sedimentation, and vegetation around the pipes and outfall structures, and the installation of riprap to reduce erosion.

2020 Tree City USA Recertification and Growth Award Applications - The Commission reviewed the applications to be submitted for recognition for 2020 projects completed and achievements.

SALDO Proposed Street Tree revisions – Judy presented the proposed revisions to the STC members. The changes to the ordinance include reducing the size of the required street tree plantings to accommodate the market and improve their success rate. On a motion made by Roy and seconded by Michelle the Shade Tree Commission recommends the Board of Supervisors approve the proposed revisions as presented. All members were in favor.

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. The Commission will research and present suggestions for a project at the February meeting.

Penn State Extension Bare Root Trees Article – The Commission was provided an article in regards to the benefits of planting bare root trees.

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 will be ordered for the annual give-away. The Commission discussed ordering more ornamental smaller trees and fewer large shade trees for the event.

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 February 19, 2020 virtually via Microsoft Teams.