



**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

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**Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Shade Tree Commission was held at 7:30 PM, Wednesday, January 17, 2018, in the Montgomery Township Building on Stump Road. The members of the Shade Tree Commission in attendance included: Roy Rodriguez, Rich Roller, Jay Glickman, and Mary Brock. Also present: Bruce Shoupe, Director of Planning & Zoning; Marianne McConnell, Deputy Zoning Officer; Valerie Liggett, Boucher & James; Greg Reiff, Parks Foreman; Michael Fox, Board Liaison; John Antonucci; and Curt Eshleman.

2017 Reorganization / Officer Election: The members unanimously elected Roy Rodriguez as Chairman of the Commission (23rd year!) on a motion made by Mary Brock and seconded by Jay Glickman. The members unanimously elected Rich Roller as Vice-Chairman on a motion made by Jay Glickman and seconded by Mary Brock.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:36pm

Minutes: On a motion made by Jay Glickman and seconded by Mary Brock, the minutes from the December 2017 meeting were approved as submitted.

Public Comment: none

Correspondence: Educational material was distributed to the members of the Commission concerning the Oak Wilt and the Spotted Lanternfly.

Update on Projects / Boucher & James:

Land Development – No update at this time. No inspections or plan reviews were completed in this time period.

Old Business:

Ash Tree Removal / Spring Valley Park – The tree removal project is scheduled to begin Monday, January 22, 2018. Letters were forwarded to the adjacent residential property owners on January 12th. Information about the project is also available on the Township website. An Ash tree that was marked for removal has uprooted and fell onto two adjacent properties this past Sunday. It was located behind 113 Twining Road. Site meeting at 8am on Monday morning with contractor prior to work beginning.

Ash Tree Removal Project / Autumn Woods and Winners Circle Open Space Areas – 403 trees have been marked to be taken down. Bid Packets were mailed out to approximately 25 contractors. A Pre-bid meeting will be held on January 23rd, 2018 at the Township building with a field visit thereafter to each area and the Bid opening is scheduled for Thursday, February 1st at 10 am. All bids must be submitted prior to 10 am on February 1st.

Arbor Day 2018 – April 28th. – The Boy Scouts have committed to May 5th for the volunteer tree installation at Spring Valley Park. 40 trees have been ordered for this project. Rich Roller will meet with Greg Reiff prior to the project for the locations for plantings. The tree delivery is scheduled for the week before Arbor Day. Protective tubes for trees will be installed by the scouts also. The trees are 3-4 feet in height. A 3 foot cage for each tree would be ideal. (Cages may be available from MMR).

New Business:

Ash Tree Assessment Protocol – The Commission discussed the possibility of completing an Ash Tree assessment in order to assess and rank Ash trees health and status for removal on Township properties. The following items were discussed:

1. Utilizing interns for these assessments.
2. Set up method for Data collection and entered into ArcGIS system (Boucher & James). Township would have access to edit and/or view data.
3. Mid to late May Boucher & James train Township interns.
4. Contact Temple (forestry, horticulture students, class project).
5. Focus on Township open space areas adjacent to private properties. Greg will map out areas of concern for interns to focus on and give to Val.
6. App on smart phones can transfer data to map directly.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on February 21, 2018 at the Montgomery Township Building.