



**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

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Shade Tree Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Shade Tree Commission was held at 7:30 PM, Wednesday, March 20, 2019, in the Montgomery Township Building on Stump Road. The members of the Shade Tree Commission in attendance included: Roy Rodriguez, Jay Glickman, Rich Roller and Mary Brock. Also present: Michael Fox, Board Liaison; Bruce Shoupe, Director of Planning & Zoning; Marianne McConnell, Deputy Zoning Officer; Valerie Liggett, Boucher & James; Greg Reiff, Parks Foreman; and John Antonucci.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm

Minutes: On a motion made by Jay Glickman and seconded by Mary Brock, the January 2019 minutes approved as amended.

Public Comment: none

Correspondence:

Peco Trimming letter to residents was reviewed by the Commission.
Arbor Day Foundation – Tree Initiative Program Announcement

Update on Projects / Boucher & James:

Land Development – The Commission was update on the following projects: General Hancock Water Tower; 510 Bethlehem Pike Plan Review and Opinion of Probable Cost; Christian Brothers; 119 Wentworth Drive; Montgomery Realty; Police and Fire Federal Credit Union;

Higher Rock Project – Outside the limits of disturbance along the South side of property by the stream; this area is 80% Ash trees. John Antonucci requested to remove the dying Ash trees without penalty. According to Valerie of Boucher & James, the Ash trees were not counted in original tree preservation count, so there would be no penalty. On a motion made by Jay and seconded by Roy, the Commission recommend approval to remove the dying Ash trees at this location on the property.

The updated Land Development, Shade Tree Projects, and Tree Replacements status charts were reviewed.

Old Business:

Ash Tree Forestry Management Project:

Phase IV – Still in progress, completion deadline is June 20th. Knight Bros. is the contractor for this phase of the project.

Phase V – Phase V has been completed and the invoice submitted for payment. Jimmy's Tree Service completed the work to the Township's satisfaction.

Phase VB – Awarded to Rambo Tree Service in the amount of \$63,750.

Phase VI – Prebid meeting March 21, Bid Opening March 28, 2019. 540 trees have been marked for this phase of the project.

2019 Community Forestry Workshop – The 3rd annual Workshop is scheduled to be held on November 1, 2019 at the Community and Recreation Center. Potential Speakers have been contacted. Starker Wright of Bartlett Tree Experts, has secured the keynote speaker. His topic will be stormwater management. Valerie Liggett of Boucher & James will present also. Emelie Swackhammer of the Penn State Extension will provide the Insect update and Daniel Deuhr, will provide the pesticide regulatory update. Need bios, final agenda, and credit approvals. A Save the Date will be drafted and ready for the April meeting.

New Business:

2019 Spring Planting Project – The Okame Cherry Trees planted approximately 10-15 years ago along Doylestown Road require some pruning or replacement. 33 trees are to be installed, some new and some replacement; 8 existing trees need to be removed; and 35 existing trees need pruning. Letters must be drafted and forwarded to property owners along with the "Adopt a tree forms". The project should be bid out in June for an early Fall 2019 planting.

Memorial Grove parking lot tree replacements - 8 Seedless Sweetgum proposed for replacement. The dead Ash trees have already been removed. This is an installation only project for phone bid in Spring 2019.

2019 Fall Planting – Can we get trees through Tree Tenders / PHS? Especially tree replacements for areas where Ash Trees have been felled.

2019 Arbor Day - Saturday, April 27th. 270 trees have been ordered. The event will be held at the Community Center.

Other News - Korean War Memorial Bid due April 30th. September 15th is the scheduled ribbon cutting. Construction should begin in May. Two Bids / Phases Project; (1) hardscaping / landscaping and (2) the Monument. Have all agreements with Township been secured.

Claremont Drive / Bell Run Boulevard – The center islands off of Upper State Rd are currently mowed by the HOA, however, it sits within the public right of way. Should the Township maintain trees within these islands in the middle of the road? For example, Claremont Drive and Bell Run Boulevard. Was it a requirement of the Land Development agreement? If so, should we

amend the agreement? Wethersfield HOA is questioning their responsibility. Table for April agenda. Provide list of areas and photos for meeting.

PennDot Ash Trees – Greg contacted a representative at PennDot in regards to the dying Ash trees, especially large Ash along their 202 Parkway (at least 10 feet from roadway) behind Montgomery Elementary School. PennDot representative stated they are aware of the Ash tree issues, but have a limited budget.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm. The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on April 17, 2019 at the Montgomery Township Building.