

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP - SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 20, 2017

Attendees: Jerome Oker, Ann Marchino, Susan Ridgeway, Bill Schutter

Meeting Called to Order: 7:10 pm

OLD BUSINESS

1. Ash Tree Update – They have covered 85-95% of invasive vines with herbicide spray at the Valley Forge Trail extension at Heuser Park. It was effective. They did not spray near water or on steep slopes. They were to finish treatment of the invasive trees (hack 'n squirt) today. There is evidence of EAB in the dead ash trees near the salt shed. The timber bid goes out this week, with removal scheduled for Nov.
2. EAB Awareness Signs - Jerome will distribute examples to STC for comment. Give Barley feedback ASAP.
3. [Executive Estates Park Tree Maintenance] Work Day to Twp E-news – Needs to be publicized. Set for Sat., Sept. 30, 9:00 am – noon. Weeding, pruning & mulching young trees.
4. Work Day Coordination – Susan will make announcement to her Tree Tender list; Ann reminded Mike and will pick up bottled water; Bill to deliver load of mulch; Jerome to bring extra trunk protection & zip ties. Small ash trees will be cut down. Could be good for Twp. Video.
5. Caley School Tree Update – The remaining trees will not be removed until June. The declining oak and crabapple may be removed, but the STC is working with the school district to save the 30", 31.5", 35", and 36" Red Oaks and a 26.5" Dawn Redwood tree. Barley will speak with the school board to make a case for their protection. Two of the trees are in the makeshift playground, and are being subjected to soil compaction.
6. Tree Ordinance Revision – Ann to incorporate comments, distribute second draft to STC, then final draft to Rob Loeper for presentation to the Board of Supervisors.
7. The Twp. Fall Festival is Sat., Oct. 7th. We'll need EAB info for that event.
8. Beautification Awards – Three people showed up to receive their award. Bill will deliver the rest. It was a nice video.
9. Citizen Board Luncheon – Oct. 29th. RSVP.
10. Buck Rubs at Heuser Park – The deer got two trees that didn't have trunk protection, so Jerome added it. This is rutting season. A couple of trees in Heuser Park need to be replaced. Susan indicated that residents want to buy street trees this fall. Bill will pick up whatever is ordered and distribute them at Heuser Park.
11. Hughes Road Cell Tower – There's a lot of Devil's Walking Stick on the site. Someone sprayed around the building to clean it up. Jerome made a site visit and confirmed that it will be too shady for Leyland Cypress trees, and recommends Green Giants.

NEW BUSINESS

12. Christmas Tree – The planting of an 8' tall evergreen tree and installation of an electric junction box is being coordinated by Bill and Gerrl Vattimo (donor or donor's rep). It's being located near the driveway to the Twp Bldg.

13. Tree Workshop – Urban Forester Ellen Roane will be conducting a workshop on what to do with harvested timber on Nov 14 during the day at Heuser Park. She is inviting all Twp. Tree Professional to attend. Ellen will be presenting info on EAB, have a portable sawmill demo, and a demo on how to make charcoal. If you have names of people who should be invited, contact Jerome.

PLAN REVIEWS

1. 541 Flint Hill Road – New commercial/industrial building.
2. Basset Furniture, Rte. 202 – Landscape renovation.

The next meeting is November 15, 7:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:55 pm