

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP - SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Date: July 19, 2017

Attendees: Barley VanClief, Jerome Oker, Ann Marchino, Bob Dempsey, Susan Ridgeway, Bill Schutter, Erika Spott

Guest: Mike Payne

Meeting Called to Order: 7:05 pm

NEW BUSINESS

1. The STC welcomed new member Susan Ridgeway to the commission.
2. Mike Payne, who lives on Longview Rd in the Executive Estates subdivision requested assistance with tree maintenance in Executive Estates Park. Some of these trees were planted as a memorial to C.J. Staudenmeier, and Mike would like to see them taken care of. He can get a group of volunteers, but asked that the Township publicize it, provide mulch and tree guards. The event will take place Sat., Oct 30, from 9:00 – 12:00 at Executive Estates Park.
3. Mike works at Glaxco Smith Kline, and mentioned their volunteer day – Orange Day. People may be willing to help with future tree planting efforts.

OLD BUSINESS

1. a. Ash Tree Management Plan – Jacob presented a proposal for herbicide application and timber harvesting to the Board of Supervisors on July 13. The proposal has the support of the Supervisors, who will vote on July 20.
b. The trail will be closed for two weeks during herbicide application.
The area will be replanted with seedling and bare root trees in spring and fall, 2018.
c. We will need sign(s) to inform the public as to what is going on and how long it will take. Park and Rec got a grant for a sign.
2. BCA Grants – The STC received \$20,000 for hazardous tree removal. The Tree Tender Group received a check for \$400 to do tree care. The check will be signed over to Davey Trees, since STC does not have a bank account.
3. Video Series – discussion tabled
4. Tree Care Day – September 30th.
5. Bare root trees will be offered to Township residents this fall. Trees will cost \$40, and can be picked up November 19th. We will not be doing a fall tree planting.
6. Tree Inventory – Pick up Executive Estates trees on Sept 30th.

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

1. The existing trees were removed at Caley Elementary School. More will come down, per the approved plan. The school will not have the stormwater basin relocated.
2. Ordinance Review – The STC will review several tree protection ordinances and come to the August 3rd Board of Supervisors meeting to present recommendations.

3. Community Center Programming – The STC tree planting and maintenance programs will be run through the Community Center.
4. Beautification Awards – They will be in September.
5. Sunday, October 29th will be the Citizen Board Luncheon.

PLAN REVIEWS

1. Lilly Pulitzer – expansion to office building.
2. 170 N. Henderson Rd. – expansion to the medical office building.

The next meeting is September 20, 7:00 pm. Barley will be on vacation, so Jerome will lead it.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:30 pm

POST MEETING NOTES:

1. A summary of recommended revisions to the Landscape Requirements section of the Subdivision ordinance was presented to the Supervisors at a workshop meeting on Aug. 3, 2017. At that meeting it was determined that recommended code language changes be discussed with Township Planner, Rob Loeper, at a special STC workshop meeting held August 23.
2. At the Aug. 23 STC workshop meeting, we agreed to some of the revised language, but additional edits were needed. The STC will work with Rob to continue developing language. When complete, he will present it to the BOS for consideration in amending the ordinance.
3. Also at the workshop meeting, a plan was informally reviewed. The proposal is for an extension to the cell tower on Hughes Road. The plan proposed Leyland Cypress trees as an evergreen buffer around the fenced area. Due to the site being heavily wooded, we did not think that was a good plant choice. Jerome Oker agreed to make a site visit to determine if that plant would be okay, or another species should be recommended.