

# Long Hill Township Shade Tree Commission

## Meeting Minutes

### May 23, 2016

**Attendees:** Don Farnell, Ashley Force (guest), Susan Jeans, Tom Malinousky, Peter O'Neill, Guy Piserchia, Paul Tamburri, David Welch, and Mary DeLello (recorder)

**Absent:** Melanie Palmer Burdorf, Phyllis Fast

Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM by Susan.

**Approval of April 25, 2016 minutes:** Guy moved and Tom seconded approval of the April 25, 2016 minutes, all in favor, minutes approved.

#### **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

1. **Treasurer's Report:** not all challenge grant receipts in yet
2. **Shade Tree Ordinance:**
  - a. It was a very productive meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup> with Environmental Commission. Important point brought up at meeting by David that the State has gotten town's to adopt storm water ordinance. Ordinance should not be applicable to all topographies. David wanted Environmental Commission to challenge the state storm water ordinance.
  - b. Discussion of application process. Cindy makes sure application is complete. Subcommittee helps applicant understand application before submitting. Susan will give Karen Shear, Cindy and Murphy Tree Service appropriate replacement trees list.
  - c. Tom sent Susan STC contacts from surrounding towns. Most towns have someone in zoning who checks that work has been done. Chatham has CTE paid per diem to check on trees in the context of the tree removal ordinance. Susan will check if CTE would be interested and what he charges per diem. Every single town in our proximity has a tree removal ordinance. Possibility of placing trees in the right of way for the house across the street from the municipal complex. Susan is going to speak to Frank's Tree Service about taking out trees and will visit neighbor.
3. **Environmental Day at Millington School:** Susan made presentations to all classes and expressed appreciation for \$100 from schools for STC.
4. **Challenge Grant Program for the Spring:** Applications finalized April 23<sup>rd</sup>, four applications received, three not relevant to program. Trees will be put in on Heritage, Puddingstone, Deer Path, Guy's property and Susan's property. Don suggested skipping the program for a year and Susan suggested waiting to see how weather might impact trees this next year. Maybe should look at pot and pot program for a tree that is not suitable for a challenge grant tree.
5. **Certified Tree Specialist or Certified Arborist:** Susan will continue researching and will have information by June meeting. (refer to 2c)
6. **Special Topics in Arboriculture at County College of Morris:** Paul spoke to Brian Oleksak of County College of Morris who will be offering new horticulture classes in the fall.
7. **Financial Disclosure Forms due end of April:** everyone got their forms in.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Emerald Ash Borer:** The ash trees will be dead due to a fungus by the time the ash borer gets to this area.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Application for Development at the Raptor Trust:** no update
2. **Application for Development at 321 Warren Street:** no update
3. **Application for Development at 1071 Valley Road:** no update
4. **Application for Development at 68 Basking Ridge Road:** application to remove 10 trees on border and 2 possibly on easement, one of which is dead.

Ashley has been visiting different committees over the last few months. Ashley is part of group in town to represent passive recreation plan for Central Park. Shade Tree Commission is responsible for trees in all parks and right of ways. Central Park is 71+ acres with the northwest part having 40 acres. Seven or eight acres are able to be used. Central Park will be a twenty year plan. To greatest extent possible, trees will be preserved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM. Peter moved, Guy seconded, all in favor.

►Next meeting: **Monday, June 27, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Library.**

Submitted by,  
Mary DeLello, Recorder