

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP  
SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
April 23, 2019**

The Springfield Township Shade Tree Commission met in a regular monthly meeting at 7:00 PM. via the Zoom Virtual Conferencing Program. Present at the meeting were: Mrs. Breen, Chair, Ms. Ponce, Vice-Chair, Mr. Ferguson, and Mr. Pryzblinski. Commissioner Liaison Mr. Lee and staff liaison Mr. Ford were also present.

Shade Tree Commission member Mr. Bell was absent.

**Approval of the Minutes**

A motion made and the minutes for the February 27, 2020 meeting of the Shade Tree Commission were approved by unanimous consent (March meeting was cancelled due to the COVID 19 Pandemic).

**Commissioner and Township Update**

Mssrs. Lee and Ford provided the Commission with an update on Township activities:

- Hired a new police officer due to a retirement
- Passed COVID ordinance that pushed back due dates on real estate taxes. All employees continue to be paid.
- Refinancing Township debt to capitalize on low interest rates.
- Street resurfacing approved for 2020.
- Lawsuit with TankCar is progressing, possibly walking trail along Walnut
- Submission of a third grant for Mermaid Park.

Mr. Pryzblinski inquired if the Township owned the entire property and if the Township is allowed others to use it. He noted that individuals are entering the property and that there is a guardhouse that was recently constructed.

Mr. Ford also noted that the leaf waste program has commenced and running smoothly. Mr. Pryzblinski asked if PW crews are checking the contents of leaf waste bags and if biodegradable bags are not strictly for leaf waste, noting that crews have not picked up leaf waste bags on his block.

**Old Business**

**ARBOR DAY**

Ms. Ponce asked for an update on the event, which has been rescheduled for the fall. Concerns were expressed about whether we will have product to give out and if Primex was holding our spring order. Mr. Ford informed the Commission that the Board of Commissioners would like a fall event and that Primex was not penalizing the Township for canceling its order for the Spring Arbor Day event.

TREE DEDICATION PROGRAM

A tree and bench dedication program in partnership with the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation Department was discussed. Mr. Ford explained that the program would be two separate programs with one application. Tree dedication requests would go through the Shade Tree Commission.

Ms. Ponce asked if it was possible for the public to adopt trees already planted by the Commission with the trees at Wyndhill Park as an example. The draft tree donation application was shared with the Commission members and the stipulations for planting and costs were discussed. Mr. Pryzblinski asked if we would guarantee the tree in perpetuity.

New Business

TREES AT WYNDHILL PARK

Ms. Ponce brought up the fact that Commission-planted trees at Wyndhill Park need to be pruned and mulched. She also wanted to highlight that the trees in the playground at Wyndhill are covered in Spotted Lantern Fly eggs. Ms. Ponce inquired as to who is responsible for upkeep of the oak trees as well as tackling the Wyndhill Park Playground.

Mr. Ford shared that the Township would be responsible for upkeep of the trees and that he would contact Parks & Rec. to discuss SLF treatment.

Ms. Breen informed the Commission that the spring treatment of SLF is to scrap eggs off of trees and/or to use a special tape that property owners would put on their trees. Ms. Breen suggested that the Penn State Extension website is a valuable resource in tackling SLF.

Ms. Ponce asked if the Commission would be interested in taping the trees. The Commission explored creating a SLF resource page on the new Township website as well as include in the Township Newsletter.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon Ford  
Assistant to the Township Manager