

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
September 24, 2020

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: Commission Chair Mrs. Breen, Commission Vice-Chair Ms. Ponce, and Mr. Bell. Commissioner liaison Mr. Lee and Staff liaison Mr. Ford were also present.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion made and the minutes for the August 27, 2020 meeting were approved.

Commissioner and Township Update

Msrs. Lee and Ford provided an update on Township operations to the members. Topics included the results of the Chiamonte Park Improvements Bid (not awarded due to coming in over budget), board consideration of opening park permitting to outside businesses and rec hall to outside educational programs. The status of the testing and remediation of the former TCCA site (Tank Car) was also discussed. The awarding of the DCNR C2P2 grant for the Cisco Park in the amount of \$134,000 was shared.

Old Business

HERITAGE TREE / TREE PROTECTION ORDINANCE

Members reviewed the Whitmarsh Township Tree Protection Standards. Ms. Breen commented that a distinction should be made for heritage/exceptional trees in Springfield Township and further noted that the Whitmarsh Shade Tree Commission is more involved in approving development plans and private properties.

Members Mr. Bell and Ms. Ponce voiced their support for the Whitmarsh Twp. model and advocated for getting more involved in formulating landscaping/tree protection standards. Mr. Ford then shared that the Springfield Township Planning Commission is beginning the process of reviewing and revising their subdivision and land development ordinances (SALDO). It was recommended that the Commissions partner on the revisions, with Shade Tree taking responsibility for the landscaping/tree protection regulations.

A discussion was then had regarding the degree to which the Commission wanted to become involved in tree protection/replacement. The general consensus was that the members wished for more transparency in landscaping standards and to implement stronger protection standards that are more aligned with those outlined by the Whitmarsh Township model.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon Ford
Assistant to the Manager