

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
June 24, 2021

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 Shade Tree members Ms. Corley, Mr. Bell, and Ms. Breen. Staff Liaison and Assistant Twp. Manager Mr. Ford was also present.

Commission members Mr. Pryzblinski and Ms. Ponce and Board of Commissioners liaison were absent.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the following meetings:

- March 25, 2021 – adjourned due to lack of quorum
- April 8, 2021
- May 27, 2021 – adjourned due to lack of quorum

All in favor. Motion passes.

Landscaping Plan Review

FLOURTOWN SHOPPING CENTER

Mr. Ford provided the Commission with an update regarding the proposed commercial land development plan for Flourtown Shopping Center. The Commission originally reviewed the proposed plan at their February 2021 meeting. Since that time, the developers have withdrawn the plan due to a complication pertaining to the Whitemarsh Township Zoning requirement for the project. Because the proposal crossed the municipal boundary between Springfield and Whitemarsh Townships, the project needed to receive the necessary approvals from both municipalities.

380-402 HAWS LANE

Mr. Ford provided an update regarding the an informal and unofficial concept rendering of a tentatively proposed 40-unit townhouse development project in the Institutional Zoning District situated at 380-402 Haws Lane in Erdenheim. Background information pertaining to the current townhouse concept as well as the previously approved, 107 bed assisted living facility proposal that is still capable of being implanted were discussed.

Mr. Ford also shared an email public comment from Richard Metz about the project. In the email, Mr. Metz emphasized the importance of preserving the mature, natural woodlands located on the property that are roughly 60-75 feet high. Mr. Metz also urged the members to recommend a lower density for the project, ideally 20 unit, in order to preserve the green space/wooded area.

Since no formal proposal has been submitted, no action was taken. The discussion was intended to inform and educate the members about this upcoming project.

Old Business

ARBOR DAY 2021

The Commission discussed the possibility of hosting an Arbor Day event in the fall of 2021. The members were favorable to hosting the meeting in conjunction with Community Day. Ms. Corley and Mr. Ford offered to contact Primex to get the availability of trees in late Sept/early Oct. as well as the organizers of Community Day at Cisco Park about the a joint event.

SENSORY GARDEN

Ms. Corley reported that there is renewed interest in restoring the Sensory Garden at Cisco Park. The suggestion was made that the members research sensory gardens and meet at the garden in the park prior to their July 22 Shade Tree Meeting.

IN-PERSON MEETINGS

Mr. Ford shared that effective July 1, 2021, the Township will resume in person meetings for the Board of Commissioners and all Township Advisory Board, including the Shade Tree Commission. The next meeting of the Shade Tree Commission will therefore be held at the Township Building (1510 Paper Mill Road, Wyndmoor, PA 19038) starting at 7:00 PM on July 22, 2021.

The in-person meeting location was moved due to the Free Library of Springfield Township still operating under limited hours (closing at 8pm). The Township expects for the Shade Tree Commission to resume meeting at the Library come September.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon Ford
Assistant Township Manager