

Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission

Minutes - January 23, 2012

Present: Jeanne Angell, Janae Alberts, Mark Anderson, Paul Orner, Joe Celia, Leigh Wood and Kevin Momenee

Absent: Doreen Saar

201 Highland Lane

We met with owner Leigh Wood and her Engineer Kevin Momenee to review the plan for subdivision at 201 Highland Lane into three lots. They requested a waiver of all replacement tree planting due to the fact that the property is very wooded as well as the fact that Ms. Wood planted over 100 trees in the past ten years.

Both Jeanne and Janae had independently visited the site before our meeting, and they concurred that the lot is very wooded. Jeanne expressed concern about the ivy growing up into the trees. Ms. Wood reported that she has asked her tree service provider about the ivy and he said that it would not hurt the trees. The committee suggested that she get a second opinion because we felt that the ivy was unhealthy.

We reviewed the plot plan with the applicants and discussed places where we felt replacement trees could be planted. We felt that any replacement trees which we would require would not need to be planted until the time of development.

Ms. Wood also brought up the Township requirement for a sidewalk which would require removing the wooded buffer alongside the road. The Historical Commission is recommending that this requirement be waived.

After review and discussion, we have the following recommendations:

- 1.) Due to the wooded areas adjoining the street on the north side of the property, we do not recommend adding sidewalks on that side. We believe that the wooded areas add a distinctive character to this part of the Township, and in addition, the loss of tree cover would be unfortunate.

On the west side of the property there appears be room for a sidewalk in front of the hedge and stone wall with little or no disruption to trees.

- 2.) Due to the fact that most of the edges of the property are wooded, we recommend waiving the requirement for street trees.

3.) Based on the number and size of the trees which will be removed at the time of development, 124" of trees (approximately 62 2" caliper trees) would need to be replaced on the three lots. Due to the densely wooded nature of the property, and the fact that the owner planted over 100 additional trees in the past ten years, we feel that adding 61 trees would be unwise and an undue burden.

We do feel that there are some locations which could handle additional trees, and recommend requiring that three trees per lot be required at the time of development.

4.) In lieu of the 53 trees which the owner is not being asked to replace, we recommend that the owner have the ivy removed from the trees on the property. Many of these are historic trees where the ivy has grown well into the branches and will eventually choke out the leaves and kill the trees. The weight of the ivy will also make the tree more susceptible to blowing over in storms (see below).

At the minimum, we recommend that the owner have the ivy cut at the bases of the trees, so it will inhibit the growth any further. This should be done as soon as possible, and be required at the time of development.

12 West Gold View Rd.

Joe Celia explained that the owner and developer Vincent Sposato who we met with at the November meeting still needs a letter of recommendations regarding the plan for subdivision at 12 W. Golf View Rd. into five lots.

We reviewed the case and Jeanne will write a letter with the following recommendations:

1.) We recommend that Mr. Sposato use native trees on the property. We recommend that the Pagoda Dogwoods be replaced with Redbuds, and that the Zelkovas be replaced with Oaks (Red Oak, White Oak, or Chestnut Oak are recommended varieties).

2.) The plan submitted on 11/5/11 was missing more than 50" of replacement trees (20+ trees of 2 1/2" caliper) as required by the ordinance. Mr. Sposato has agreed to add four trees per lot at the time of development, if possible. He has offered to donate trees that cannot fit on the lots to the Township for planting in a nearby park or public space.

Administrative Issues

The commission welcomed two new members: Mark Anderson & Paul Orner.

Jeanne reported that Chairman Peter Hickman has resigned from the Shade Tree Commission. Commission members noted the fact that this would be a loss for the Commission, as Peter has greater expertise in the area of trees than the rest of us. We reaffirmed our desire to add one member to the Commission, with the hopes that we could recruit an arborist.

Joe explained that a new chair would need to be selected, and the committee appointed Jeanne Angell as the chair for 2012. Mark Anderson was appointed the secretary starting in February.

Jeanne provided Mark with a copy of the document of goals and plans that we created in early 2011, and suggested that we review that at the next meeting to set goals for 2012.

We discussed two immediate goals: to get the webpage online and to create a list of recommended trees. Janae agreed to work on a draft of this list and present it at the February meeting.

Jeanne reported that the Township, with Mario Oliva as an advocate, approved the 2012 budget request for Tree Tenders, which includes plantings at five Township parks. It also includes a new initiative: offering 100 free trees to residents which are of the largest sized species. These potted trees will be planted by tree tenders with help from the Township to dig the holes.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Monday, Feb 27th at 7:30 pm. The conference room will be occupied by the commissioners, so we will be meeting on the second floor of the Township Building.

Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission

Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2012

A meeting of the Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission was held at the Haverford Township Municipal Building on February 27, 2012 and was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chair Jeanne Angell.

In attendance: Janae Alberts
 Mark Anderson
 Jeanne Angell
 Joseph Celia
 Doreen Saar

Absent: Paul Orner

Representatives of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) were in attendance at the meeting and presented tentative development plans for the Ardmore Avenue Station (Norristown High Speed Line) which will be undergoing reconstruction in advance of the US Open to be held at Merion Golf Club beginning June 10, 2013. The plans, as submitted, indicate that seventeen (17) existing trees (mainly Maple and Ash) will be removed during reconstruction. The plans indicate that six (6) River Birch trees will be planted on the property (five (5) on the Ardmore Avenue side and one (1) on the Golf View Road side). Based on the requirement contained in the Township ordinance, the current plans will need to be modified to include an additional 52" of new trees to be planted. The Commission discussed the age and size of the trees being removed and the advantages of planting native trees which help support wildlife. It was suggested that the additional trees be large in size and consist of a mix of Swamp White Oak, Sycamore and River Birch which would tolerate wet feet. It was also suggested that some of the additional trees might be placed along the property line and in the area of the bio-retention basin on the Golf View Road side of the property if possible. The Commission thanked the SEPTA representatives for their presentation; the final location of the additional trees and revised plans will be submitted at a subsequent time.

A discussion was held regarding the operation of the Commission as outlined in the Township Code. A motion was made nominating Doreen Saar to the position of Vice Chairman; the motion was seconded and approved. A discussion was held regarding the possibility of adding two additional members to the Commission. At the current time, no new applications have been received by the Township.

A discussion was held regarding the planned activities of the Haverford Township Tree Tenders for the 2012 year. At the present time, three Spring events (Powder Mill Park, Thompson Tract and Haverford Reserve) are planned for April. In addition, three Fall events (Karakung Drive, Haverford Reserve and Elwell Field) are planned for November. Current plans call for approximately 100 additional trees of large species varieties to be offered at no cost to residents and to be planted by Tree Tender volunteers; the Township will arrange to have the sites prepared and holes dug for the 100 free trees.

Jeanne Angell will forward a previously prepared overview of the Shade Tree Commission to Lori Hanlon-Widdop for inclusion on the Township's website. In order to provide Township residents with additional tree related resources, Janae Albert will compile a list of recommended trees to be added to the website in the near future.

A discussion was held regarding the benefits of having Haverford Township recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation. At the current time, the Township meets at least two of the four requirements. In addition to the need for an Arbor Day proclamation, additional information regarding tree related expenditures must be reviewed and documented.

A brief discussion was held regarding the Commission's goals and timeline. This item will be reviewed in greater detail at a subsequent meeting.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Monday, March 26th at 7:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark D Anderson

Mark D Anderson

Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2012

A meeting of the Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission was held on March 26, 2012 and was called to order at 7:45 PM by Chair Jeanne Angell.

In attendance: Janae Alberts

 Mark Anderson

 Jeanne Angell

 Paul Orner

 Doreen Saar

Absent: Joseph Celia

A discussion was held regarding the benefits of having Haverford Township recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation. The Tree City USA program recognizes communities that have established a viable tree management plan and program containing the following four standards:

- 1> a tree board or department
- 2> a tree care ordinance
- 3> an Arbor Day observance and proclamation
- 4> a community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita

It is the Commission's belief that the Township currently meets the first, second and fourth standards. Janae Alberts will correspond with Joe Celia and Larry Gentile and provide an outline of the requirements and request the necessary documentation regarding tree related expenditures. In addition, Janae will request that the Township make an Arbor Day proclamation.

Jeanne Angell suggested that we make a presentation to the board of commissioners this year about tree-related issues as well as suggestions. She shared an outline of suggested topics which was discussed by the Commission.

The Commission discussed the fact that the Township has been planting non-native ornamental trees over native and large species varieties. Jeanne reported that she heard that the Township would like to plant only Kwanzan Cherry trees in the median strip of West Chester Pike. Jeanne will talk to Larry Gentile and Richard Dougherty about the benefits of: native trees over non-native, large trees over smaller ones and planting a variety of trees versus one species only.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Monday, April 23rd at 7:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark D Anderson

Mark D Anderson

Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission

Meeting Minutes

May 29, 2012

A meeting of the Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission was held at the Haverford Township Municipal Building on May 29, 2012 and was called to order at 7:40 PM by Chair Jeanne Angell.

In attendance: Janae Alberts
 Mark Anderson
 Jeanne Angell
 Doreen Saar

Absent: Joseph Celia
 Paul Orner

The minutes of the April 23, 2012 meeting were read and approved.

A discussion was held regarding the tree planting days organized by and staffed by members of the Haverford Township Tree Tenders on April 28th(Powder Mill Park and Haverford Reserve), April 29th(Thompson Tract) and May 5th(various township residences). A total of approximately 65 trees were planted on the dates noted and a tree planting weekend is planned for the Fall.

A discussion was held regarding Mr Gentile's memorandum of February 29, 2012 outlining the duties, responsibilities and expectations of Township advisory boards. A suggestion was made that it would be helpful to have further clarification of the points noted in the memorandum and how they relate specifically to the Commission. Jeanne Angell offered to contact Mr Gentile in order to discuss the matter further.

A discussion was held regarding the Shade Tree Commission's page on the Township's website (<http://www.haverfordtownship.com/egov/apps/directory/list.egov?path=divs&action=199&fDD=14-199>). The page currently contains information regarding the purpose of the Commission and its current members as well as information regarding the Township's tree ordinance, Haverford Township Tree Tenders and links to tree related websites. In order to provide Township residents with additional resources, Janae Albert is currently working on compiling a list of recommended trees (including supporting information) to be added to the website. It was suggested that photographs of the trees be included with the list.

A discussion was held regarding the requirements and procedures for the submission of development plans to the Commission for review. The Township requirements and procedures are outlined in the Code which is available on the Township's website.

A discussion was held regarding the Haverford Township Heritage Festival to be held on June 3rd. Haverford Township Tree Tenders will be in attendance and will provide information regarding their activities as well as tree related resources available to resident of the Township.

A discussion was held regarding the possibility of adding two additional members to the Commission. It was suggested that the Commission would benefit from the selection of an arborist as it would add additional resources and support. A suggestion was made to contact the Haverford College Arboretum Association for a list of potential candidates.

A discussion was held regarding the benefits of having Haverford Township recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation. The Tree City USA program recognizes communities that have established a viable tree management plan and program containing the following four standards:

- 1> a tree board or department
- 2> a tree care ordinance
- 3> an Arbor Day observance and proclamation
- 4> a community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita

It was noted that the Township currently meets two of the four standards; an Arbor Day proclamation (item #3) and confirmation of the budget requirement (item #4) are still outstanding. Jeanne Angell will follow up with Mr Gentile to discuss the matter further and request the necessary documentation.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Monday, June 25th at 7:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark D Anderson

Mark D Anderson

Shade Tree Commission of Haverford Township

Minutes of June 25, 2012

Present: Janae Alberts, Jeanne Angell (Chair), Doreen Alvarez Saar (Vice-Chair)

Absent: Mark Anderson (Secretary), Joe Celia (Township), Paul Orner

Meeting called for Township Building

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

The chair gave a report on her meeting with Larry Gentile. Items discussed were:

- Memorandum of February 29, 2012 outlining the duties, responsibilities and expectations of Township advisory boards that seemed to indicate some boards were violating Township protocol. The chair was assured that the Shade Tree Commission was doing its duties as outlined in the Township statutes properly.
- Tree Tenders – Planting in Township parks is going well
- 100 Free Trees Program - This was a long discussion because of some of the issues that arose in the Township delivery of the program. 30 Trees were planted in the spring with the cooperation of the Township and Tree Tenders. There were some communication and procedural issues. She would like to have the Order Form & Waiver on the Township Website before re-advertising the program and place information in the Summer & Fall newsletters. Fall planting of free trees will be on October 20th, Early November for PHS trees. They also discussed a possible reduction of free trees offered next year due to the amount of volunteers needed to plant them, and the relationship of the program to the Commissioners' Trees.
- Jeanne suggested additions to Shade Tree Web Page: list of recommended trees w/pictures; the number for the Hotline for Cooperative Extension and order form for the Free Tree program.
- Tree City USA - Mr. Gentile was interested in pursuing the Tree City USA status. He agreed to create a letter with the amount the Township spends per capita on their Tree program. He plans to have the proclamation done this summer. He will make the application to Tree City USA when all of the pieces are complete.
- Jeanne offered suggestions for Township planting in the median strips including choosing native trees, planting larger species and varying species within any one planting. He seemed open to and interested in using these suggestions in future plantings.

The Committee also discussed the dates for upcoming special events: Arbor Day at the Grange; Heritage Festival; Township Day (10/6) ; Arbor Day 2013. Janae reported on her progress developing the List of Recommended Trees .We discussed enlarging the Shade Tree Commission to include 2 more members. In particular we would like an arborist on the commission.

The meeting concluded at 9:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Doreen Alvarez Saar

Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission

Meeting Minutes

August 27, 2012

A meeting of the Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission was held at the Haverford Township Municipal Building on August 27, 2012 and was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chair Jeanne Angell.

In attendance: Janae Alberts
 Mark Anderson
 Jeanne Angell
 Joseph Celia
 Paul Orner
 Doreen Saar

333 Ardmore Avenue

Donald Dissinger of Ewing Cole appeared before the Commission representing the Board of Directors of The Merion Golf Club (Merion).

Mr. Dissinger gave a brief history of the 230 acre property from the time of its purchase in 1910 through the present. In addition to its designation as a National Historic Landmark, Merion has been designated as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by Audubon International for its protection and preservation efforts. Merion will be the site of the US Open in June 2013.

Mr. Dissinger submitted a proposed plan involving the portion of Merion along Ardmore Avenue known as the Wheeler property. While not currently in use by Merion as part of its East Course, the Wheeler property does provide a natural buffer and is used for the growth of sod and ground cover which are used in course maintenance. The property will be used by the USGA during the US Open and will return to its current use when the USGA concludes its operations at Merion by the end of October 2013.

The proposed plan was developed to provide for tree removal and replacement which conforms to the requirements of the Township ordinances. While a number of trees on the property will be preserved, the proposal involves the removal of 762" of trees on the property and will require the planting of 277" of replacement trees. Merion proposes planting a mix of fifty (50) 4" evergreen and nineteen (19) 4" deciduous replacement trees for a total of 276"; the proposed plan calls for the replacement trees to be planted in a staggered double row which will provide a natural boundary along Ardmore Avenue. While the particular species of replacement trees have not yet been determined, a mid-winter follow up meeting is planned to provide the Commission with additional details.

A motion was proposed as follows:

- 1> Merion will prepare a final tree replacement plan which will be submitted to the Commission by March 2013
- 2> Merion will apply for a permit for tree removal within 48 hours of the approval of the proposed motion
- 3> Removal of trees with a caliper of < 24 inches will occur immediately upon the issuance of the permit
- 4> The approved tree replacement plan will commence no later than November 1, 2013

Following a discussion, a motion was made to accept the proposed motion; the motion was seconded and approved.

1901 Pennview Road

On behalf of the property owners, Brian Matson of Momenee & Associates, Inc appeared before the Commission and submitted plans for 1901 Pennview Road. The proposed plans require the removal of 104" of trees on the property including a large 35" Sycamore which would need to be removed in order to allow for handicapped access to a new building. Following a discussion of the available options, the Commission expressed its interest in preserving the large Sycamore on the property; Mr. Matson agreed to review the site for possible alternatives. The Commission suggested the planting of ten (10) 3" replacement trees on the property for a total of 30" assuming the Sycamore can be preserved and upon the submission of revised plans. A list of suggested species was provided to Mr. Matson at the conclusion of the discussion.

Llanerch Country Club

On behalf of the property owners, Danilo Maffei of Maffei Landscape Design, LLC appeared before the Commission and submitted a landscape plan prepared in conjunction with the renovation of the clubhouse. The plan calls for the addition of two (2) rain gardens on the property. In addition, runoff of roof water will no longer be routed directly into Naylor's Run but will be disbursed, filtered and absorbed directly onto the property.

The proposed plan involves the removal of trees on the property which will require the planting of 248" of replacement trees; the submitted plan calls for replacement trees totaling 256". Following a review and discussion, the Commission suggested that consideration be given to add more native species to the selection of replacement trees. Mr. Maffei indicated that the detailed planting list would be reviewed and that a revised list and/or revised plans would be submitted to the Commission at a subsequent date.

28 East Park Road

On behalf of the property owners, Rick Fuller and John Ryan appeared before the Commission and submitted plans for 28 East Park Road. The proposed plans require the removal of 26" of trees on the property. Following a discussion of the available options, the Commission agreed to the planting of four (4) 3" replacement trees on each of the two (2) building lots for a total of 24". A list of suggested species was provided to Mr. Fuller at the conclusion of the discussion.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Monday, September 24, 2012 at 7:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark D Anderson

Mark D Anderson

Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission

Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2012

A meeting of the Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission was held at the Haverford Township Municipal Building on September 24, 2012 and was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chair Jeanne Angell.

In attendance: Mark Anderson

Jeanne Angell

Joseph Celia

Paul Orner

Absent: Janae Alberts

Doreen Saar

1901 Pennview Road

Brian Matson of Momenee & Associates, Inc appeared before the Commission representing the property owners of 1901 Pennview Road. At its meeting on August 27, 2012, the Commission expressed interest in preserving the large Sycamore on the property. Revised plans were presented by Mr. Matson which included 1> the relocation of handicapped parking and 2> the relocation of handicapped access to the rear of the new building which will allow for greater protection of the tree. A discussion was held regarding the available options for the required replacement trees on the property; Mr. Matson was provided with a list of suggested species at the conclusion of the discussion.

Llanerch Country Club

The Commission received revised plans for Llanerch Country Club; the original plans were presented at its meeting on August 27, 2012. After review and discussion, the revised plans were accepted as submitted.

601 Lancaster Avenue

It was brought to the Commission's attention that a number of Sweetgum and Eastern Red Cedar have died following planting earlier this year at the Acme Markets property at 601 Lancaster Avenue. After a discussion of the options available, a list of suggested replacement trees will be communicated to the property owners with replacement recommended for Spring 2013.

Mr. Celia received an inquiry as to the possible removal of seven (7) Norway Spruce located at the entrance/ exit to the Kohl's property on Township Line Road. The tree removal and replacement would increase driver visibility and reduce the potential for traffic accidents along the heavily travelled portion of Township Line Road approaching the entrance to the new Quarry Center. The removal of the trees would be followed by their replacement with an appropriate species of tree. After a discussion of the options available, a list of suggested replacement trees will be communicated to the property owners.

The Township Code provides for the appointment of a member of the Commission as a liaison to the Haverford Township Park Board in order to facilitate cooperation and consultation regarding matters pertaining to the planting and maintenance of shade trees in Township parks. After a brief discussion, a motion was made nominating Janae Alberts to the position of Park Board liaison; the motion was seconded and approved.

A discussion was held regarding an inquiry received from a Township resident concerning the notice residents receive prior to the removal of trees within the Township. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the matter would be reviewed and discussed in greater detail at a future meeting.

A discussion was held regarding a presentation to be made at a future meeting of the Board of Commissioners. The purpose of the presentation would be to outline the workings of the Commission as well as to communicate its goals and objectives. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the matter would be reviewed and discussed in greater detail at the Commission's October meeting.

The minutes of the February 27, March 26 and May 29, 2012 meetings were read and approved.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Monday, October 22, 2012 at 7:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark D Anderson

Mark D Anderson