

Haverford Township - Shade Tree Commission

Meeting: Monday, February 26, 2024

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Room B, 1014 Darby Rd., Havertown Pa., 19083

Minutes

Jim Stephens called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Roll call was taken.

Attendance

Commission Members Attending: Jim Stephens, Felicia Hurewitz, Doreen Saar, Pano Kalogeropoulos, Edmond Krasniqi, Marie Occhiogrosso, Andrew Mink

Township Representation: Alexis De Santi, TWP Special Projects Coordinator, Gerry Hart (8th Ward Commissioner)

Commission Work Session

Minutes from the March 25th, 2024 meeting were approved.

Public Comments: None

Plan/Permit Reviews:

7 Coopertown Rd. Jonathan Alderson, Landscape Architect, Wayne PA

Removal of 76.8 inches; planting 49 primarily native at 98 inches

Doreen moved to vote; Marie seconded. The project was approved.

14 Claremont Blvd. Caramanico Homes, LLC. Gus Houtman and Son, Media PA

Proposing to plant 12 trees, four on each lot- (4 on street, 8 on the back)

Plan reviewed shows date October 2021, but it is updated on the record (April 16, 2024)

152" of trees were removed based on the Twp. replacement formula.

24" of street trees and other replacements will be planted

64" of replacement at \$250/inch will be assessed. Total. \$16,000

Pano asked the question if permits were issued for 5 trees over 30"

Concern was for over-eager developers to remove trees without permits

Removal of trees should be based on necessity.

STC working with the township for greater process of transparency

Motion to approve plan

Jim moved to vote, Andrew seconded. Plan was approved

Chatham Park Elementary School. Crabtree Rohrbaugh Assoc. Architects, Mechanicsburg PA. Ken Matthews presenting.

Discussed: Chatham is need of major renovation. Worked with the school for the building to grow to about 90k square feet (from 60k)

New parking lot, additional classrooms in the back

New front loading dock, Main admin replaced with the 2 story wing

6 cherry trees will remain along the iconic front walk

Ken worked with Jim and Mark to update plans to mimic existing trees, and added new trees across the parking lot. Discussed the issue of trees being removed near the street to build a storm water basin. Possible move those trees.

145 inches of trees will be removed. The current plan calls for replacement of 140”

There was discussion of the importance of shade for the children and that there was space available. Linwood School given as an example of tree loss.

The STC asked for up to 30 more trees to be added to the plan and suggested some alternatives to those proposed based on survivability.

Tree removal scheduled for summer 2024 with completion by August 2025.

The committee agreed that Ken would resubmit the plan with more and different trees.

Plan Approved.

The Chatham plan was resubmitted on 5/6/24. This plan included 105 trees totaling 210”. Suggested trees were added and some removed from the proposal. The revised plan was emailed to STC members for approval. All members sent email approval of the plan by May 8. The plan was approved by email in order to facilitate the Chatham project, as the STC does not meet again until the end of June.

The final plan called for 185” of tree removal to be offset by 210” of tree replacement. No penalty fee to be assessed.

Continuing Business

Developers following township planning and zoning if building 3 houses on a 1-house lot. There is an interest in maintaining larger lots with fewer houses.

How can subdivision of property after sale be prevented? Gerry Hart suggested it's possible for original owners to create an easement. Complicated issue.

Issue of storm water management was discussed. Are trees are counted as part of storm water management related to Chatham. Ken suggested no.

Consider how we could be working with the engineering to understand if trees are considered as part of storm water management as part of ordinance to support protecting trees.

Doreen discussed using STC lottery leftovers to be shared with the school district
STC recommends using the updated list to diversify trees (away from the red maple)

Tree Lottery

Discussed penalty for no shows, or applied when they won within the last year, or cases where people rejected all cases (about 15 cases in total)

Consider developing a database of previous submissions to compare against new submissions

Consider following up with the no winner list to let them know they didn't win

Consider adding a description of size of tree at pickup (average 6 feet)

Consider adding a pop-up or required field on the application page with the disclaimer to ensure new applicants:

Did not apply in the last year

Will pick up any choice

Must provide a phone number

Consider reaching out to civic association or Parks & Recreation for any remaining trees that were not picked up

Motion to approve creating a database to ensure no repeat winners within same or previous year and be removed from next round of lottery was approved.

New Business (if any): None

Review 2024 Goals (as time permits)

Not discussed this meeting.

The meeting ended at 9:30 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 24th, 2024 at 7:30 PM.