

Haverford Township - Shade Tree Commission

Meeting: Monday, August 26, 2024

Time: 7:30 p.m.

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

Agenda

Agenda Items:

Commission Work Session

- Approval of Minutes from July 22, 2024
- Tree Giveaway (possible dates – October 26th, November 2nd, November 9th)
- Budget for 2025

Public Comments

Plan/Permit Reviews

- 7:40PM – 9 Blakely Road, Haverford, PA, David Fiorello, Engineer, Schock Group

Tree Removal Requests:

- Report on 128 Flintlock, Nitre Hall, and Howell Lane
- 114 Farwood. No permit. Kingkiner. 7/30/24.
- 7 Coopertown. 30” dying tulip poplar removed. Alderson.
- 36 Myrtle. Complaint. No removal request yet.
- 100 Decatur.
- 136 Tunbridge.

Continuing Business

- Reports from TWP. Grading permits. Tree removal form.
- Haverford Township Day, October 5th.

New Business:

- Adopt-a-Trail. Parks and Rec initiative.

Review 2024 Goals (as time permits)

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Minutes -

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

Roll call was taken.

Attendance

Commission Members Attending: Jim Stephens, Andrew Mink, Pano Kalogeropoulos, Felicia Hurewitz Doreen Saar

Township Representation: Alexis De Santi, TWP Special Projects Coordinator

Members Listening in on Zoom: None

Attendees from the Public: Chuck Harrington, owner of 715 Ardmore Ave; Vince Darazio, landscaper for Chuck Harrington

Commission Work Session

Minutes from the July 22nd, 2024 meeting were approved.

Public Comments

Discussion of Chuck Harrington's desire to cut down a 60" DBH Beech tree on his property (715 Ardmore Ave). Reasons include falling branches, concern about potential claims due to damage. Pictures indicate that the spread of the tree goes over the street, sidewalk and house. Pano highlighted that all large trees occasionally have branches fall, and confirmed that no damage had yet occurred. Andrew Mink discussed how falling branches might not indicate the tree is in decline absent other indications, but that a growing beech-specific pest might put the tree at risk at some point in the future. STC asked the owner to send us an arborist's report and a determination of whether the tree is a public street tree or not as it sits 28" from the street center. If the tree is a public tree, we will follow the arborist's recommendation. If the tree is not a public tree, the owner is free to do what he wants with it.

Discussion afterwards regarding the need to clarify in the code whether the tree replacement formula applies to private Heritage trees that are submitted for a tree removal permit.

Plan/Permit Reviews

128 Flintlock Rd – Recommendation: Do NOT remove. Repair sidewalk as needed

Nitre Hall – Recommendation: Ok to take down tree

Howell Lane – No further action required

314 Farwood – No permit was requested or issued. Kingkiner took the tree down 7/30/24. Discussion of what the penalty might be for not filing a tree removal permit prior to taking down a tree? Note will be sent to Jaime Jilozian re: Codes.

7 Coopertown Rd - 30” Dying Tulip poplar removed, Alderson. Approved.

36 Myrtle Rd – Complaint from neighbor. No Removal Request has need submitted by the owner. Andrew expressed his opinion that the tree should remain, as it appears healthy.

100 Decatur Rd – Recommendation: Andrew inspected the tree. It has sap rot. Removal request approved.

136 Tunbridge Cir – Uncertainty regarding exact tree. Pano will go out and try to talk to owner to determine which tree they are requesting to cut down.

1631 Mount Pleasant – No permit submitted. Entire 40” DBH Oak tree was cut down on 08/10/2024 after a single branch fell during a storm the previous day.

General Discussion

The upcoming budget proposal for next year was discussed. The decision was made to increase the budget requested to reflect growing costs for trees, to allow for more trees to be planted and to potentially pay for volunteers to plant the trees. A budget of \$28,800 will be submitted.

Fall 2024 Tree Lottery tree distribution was set for November 9th, 2024.

Haverford TWP Day, October 5. STC will have a table and also potentially a flyer about the Tree Lottery, Heat Island poster, Reforest Haverford banner and other materials. Plans will be finalized at the September meeting.

315 Farwood – Felicia states that the house is too big for the property. This is a building/planning commission issue. However, the builder may not be conforming to the agreed-upon tree planting plan. Felicia will further investigate the tree planting.

Report on upgrading Tree Removal Form

Heritage Tree program

Discussion of changes to make to the Tree Code

Review 2024 Goals (as time permits)

Not reviewed this meeting.

The meeting ended at 9:00 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 23rd, 2024 at 7:30 PM.