



# Agenda

## HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP

### Shade Tree Commission

**February 28, 2022 @ 7:30 pm**

**Location:** Township Building, Room 201C  
1014 Darby Road, Havertown PA 19083

**Agenda Items:**

1. Public Comments (if any)
2. Plan Reviews (as required)
  - 1801 Manor Road
  - 302 Kathmere Road
3. Approval of Minutes from January 28
4. 2021 Annual Report to Board of Commissioners
5. Tree City USA Application Update
6. Spring Tree Giveaway Update
7. Discussion Items:
  - EAC/Tree Tenders/Shade Tree Task Force
  - Model Template for Plot Plans
  - Revise Approved List of Township Trees
  - Township Tree Survey/Inventory
8. Marketing ideas:
  - Township Newsletters: 2/4 (April - July), 6/3 (Aug – Nov), 10/7 (Dec - March).
  - Haverford Twp Day / Earth Day
  - “Friends of Shade Tree” website
9. New Business (if any)

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**2022 Meeting Calendar: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of Month @7:30pm**

~~January 24~~

February 28

March 28

April 25

May 23

June 27

July 25

August 22

September: No meeting, Jewish Holiday

October 24

November 28

December: No meeting, Christmas Holiday

**All meeting attendees are required to wear a mask.**



## Minutes for Monday, February 28, 2022

Meeting took place in the Township Building, 1014 Darby Road, Haverford PA 19083, meeting room C.

Paul Davit called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Commission Members Attending: Paul Davit, Mark Pennington, Jonathan Alderson, Jim Stephens, Doreen Alvarez Saar, Panos Kalogeropoulos and Joe Celia  
Absent: Andrew Mink

### Public Attendees:

- Developer of 1801 Manor Rd site, Vince Sposato of Sposato Builders, Newtown Square PA 19073. Approximately 30 people from the neighborhood including the owner of the 1801 Manor property.
- Developer of 302 Kathmere Rd site, Vince Sposato (presentation by Chris Yohn, engineer) Sposato Builders, Newtown Square PA 19073. Approximately 30 people from the neighborhood were in attendance.

1. The developer of 1801 Manor Rd presented the plan.
  - a. Neighbors expressed various concerns about the plan. There were public comments from neighbors Mike Dolan, Joanne Pittman, Doug Pittman, Rebecca Burnett:
    - i. This lot has been allowed to remain open space for years. Neighbors have enjoyed the space as a play area and appreciated the benefits and beauty of the trees: they are upset about the removal of the large trees.
    - ii. Can changing the footprint of the house on the lot or shifting the driveway help to preserve trees on the property?
    - iii. There was a 48" DBH Oak tree on the west boundary of the property that does not appear in the plan. This tree was severely pruned by PECO. It was taken down in August 2021, before there were plans to develop the property (according to property owner Kathy Molloy). Joe Celia confirmed that at the time of the oak was removed, the Heritage Tree statute had not been approved and therefore a permit for removal was not mandated.

- iv. Neighbors requested that, if possible, some of the replacement trees be planted in the neighborhood.
    - b. The developer reported that perc tests had been done on the property and the only for a drainage basin was under the magnolia tree in the front of the property; this statement was confirmed by Joe Celia. The developer reported that the Planning Commission was waiting on approval for a recommendation from the Shade Tree Commission on tree removal and replacement. This statement was confirmed by the neighbors.
    - c. Shade Tree Commission (STC) made the following comments.
      - i. Concerns were expressed over the removal of the 24" blue spruce and the Holly next to it, as both appeared to be in good condition. The developer reported the spruce tree had been cut back by PECO and the developer was not sure the tree could be saved as foundation excavation would come very close to its root system. Developer agreed to make every effort to save this tree but could not guarantee it's survival. It was noted that changing the footprint of the might help preserve these trees. An option for replacement trees at the front corners of the property was also made.
      - ii. The STC recommended that the developer review the plan, attempt to make the suggested changes and resubmit the plan at a future meeting. It was also recommended that the developer meet with the neighbors and discuss the plans with the neighbors before the plans were finalized.
- 2. The engineer for the 302 Kathmere Rd. site (Chris Yohn) presented the development plan.
  - a. Public comments: One neighbor said that he wanted the trees removed because they were nothing but trouble. Whenever there were wind storms, branches came down and made a mess.
  - b. Shade Tree Commission (STC) made the following comments.
    - i. Since the 39" Walnut appears healthy and is on the border of the property, why does it need to be removed? The engineer responded that the arborist had recommended removal as it was leaning severely towards toward the adjacent house.
    - ii. It was noted that approximately 29 cedar (?) trees (between 8 and 12" diameter at the base) had been recently removed on the front and side borders of the property. These trees did not appear on the plan: should these trees be counted in the replacement ratio? It was decided, taking into consideration Joe Celia's opinion about the statute governing the public sidewalks, that the fact that the 8 trees along the front were overlapping the public space of the sidewalk justified removal. Further, the difficulty of quantifying the trees on the lateral border argued for removal without replacement.
    - iii. The STC decided that the 3 white pines and the 10" cedar, which had already been removed, would be considered in the replacement formula. This is a total of 73" DBH to be replaced on a 1:4 basis = 18" replacement DBH or 9, 2" trees. (9x\$250=\$2250) in fees to be paid by the developer.
  - c. The developer agreed to make the suggested changes in the plans, pay the replacement fee and resubmit revised plans to the Codes department for review.
  - d. The developer suggested that the replacement would be with 3" DBH trees rather than 2". STC encouraged, the developer in the reformulation of the plan, to find space on the lot to plant the trees.

3. Jeanne Angel (Tree Tenders) and Noel Smyth (EAC-Environmental Advisory Committee) met with the STC to discuss a proposal for planting more trees in the township thereby expanding the tree cover and providing the ecosystem benefits. Old trees are dying and not being replaced. People are removing trees and not replacing them.
  - a. Can the STC provide trees for such a project? The STC agreed to spend resources toward this end.
  - b. How can we get more people interested and engaged in this issue?
    - i. Better education. Providing better information before tree giveaways on an accessible website would improve the participation rate of people who were interested in planting a tree on their property.
    - ii. In the past Ward Commissioners had tree giveaways in their wards. Can we do this again? The STC would support an effort of this kind, which might make delivery in a local area easier. It was suggested that ward commissioners might create and provide to the STC lists of people who wanted trees.
    - iii. Other ideas:
      1. Arborists and landscape companies collaborate with tree replacement process.
      2. Realtors give new residents information about planting new trees. Possibly give a new tree to each new resident.
      3. Civic associations and civic councils could promote tree planting.
      4. Climate Action website could be used to promote tree planting.
      5. Peter Hickman, CREC, could promote tree planting at Earth Day event. Possibly give away trees there.
      6. A public meeting(s) to engage people and promote tree planting.
      7. Talk with Manor Road site's (above) neighbor group about spearheading a project of planting trees around that neighborhood.
4. Minutes of the January 24, 2022 STC meeting were reviewed and approved.
5. Other items on the agenda were postponed until the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 9:30 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 28th at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jim Stephens*, secretary