

Haverford Township Shade Tree Commission Meeting

Date: July 25, 2016

Attendees: Joe Rastatter (Chair), Paul Davit, Paul Orner, Doreen Saar, Joe Celia

Agenda:

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Meeting minutes for June were unanimously approved (no meeting was held in May).

Property at 1235 Steel Road

Property owner and builder Vince Falcone presented plan to demolish single family house on premises, split lot into 2 and erect single family homes on each lot. The Commissioners discussed the type and placement of the proposed trees and recommended changes:

- Replace 2 Yellowwoods on street with Eastern Redbuds
- Eliminate 1 Eastern Redbud on side yard and plant 1 White Oak in back yard of each lot

Owner agreed and will send new specs to Joe Celia.

General Discussion/Resident Q&A

- E. Hamilton raised a question about trees being cut down on Llanarch Golf Course (some had been damaged after a storm) and how that was approved. The Commissioners responded that since the trees are on private property, were not part of new construction, nor considered street shade trees, the Commission had no jurisdiction.
- E. Hamilton asked whether the township collects fees for tree removal and new planting. Joe Celia responded that although the township does not collect fees from residents, it does apply for federal and state grants for tree planting and maintenance; he also mentioned the local Tree Tenders program. A discussion ensued regarding citizen advocacy/involvement in updating or creating new shade tree ordinances and how they would be presented to the Board of Commissioners.
- A resident (name?) commented that trees along Township Line Road had been cut down and replaced with Arborvitae. The Commission was unaware of this and Joe Celia stated he would look into it.
- The Commissioners discussed ways to improve communications with township residents including use of email and the Quarterly Township Newsletter.
- Joe Celia stated that the Tree City USA applications had been submitted to the state for 2015 and 2016.
- The Commissioners agreed to continue with the Tree Board University online courses.