

# Haverford Township - Shade Tree Commission

Meeting: Monday, February 26, 2024

Time: 7:30 p.m.

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

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## Agenda

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Agenda Items:

Commission Work Session

Approval of Minutes from January 22, 2024

Public Comments

Plan/Permit Reviews

- 14 Claremont Blvd. Caramanico Homes, LLC. G.D. Houtman & Son, Inc. Civil Engineers.

Tree Removal Requests

- Report on sycamore request from Eagle and Stanley
- Discuss and make recommendation on request from Windsor Park Lane

Report and Plan

- Tree Lottery process (4/20/24)

Heritage Tree Recognition Process

Continuing Business

- Discuss use of Google Docs
- Geomapping TWP tree canopy
- PROS plan report - Arborist

New Business (if any)

Review 2024 Goals (as time permits)

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## Minutes

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Jim Stephens called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

Commission Members Attending:

Jim Stephens, Felicia Hurewitz, Pano Kalogeropoulos, Andrew Mink, Marie Occhiogrosso

Township Representation: Alexis De Santi (TWP Special Projects Coordinator)

Members not attending: Doreen Saar, Edmond Krasniqi

Minutes from the January 22, 2024 meeting were approved

Public Comments: None

Property Plan Reviews

300 Farwood Rd

Alexis reported that the township is confident it was a hazardous Heritage Ash species and taken down by the township. Alexis also emphasized that there was receptivity by the township to document tree removals.

Committee requests that we see the paper trail on such removals going forward.

14 Claremont Blvd.

There was discussion during the week with Caramanico and Twp about whether the developers would submit an updated plan as requested and whether they would come to present at the meeting.

In the end they did not submit an updated plan and did not come to the meeting.

Permit request review

No members of the public present to discuss the current requests

2 Sycamores at Eagle and Stanley

Jim reported that he sent a letter to the TWP recommending denial of the request to remove one or both trees and recommended appropriate pruning.

Red Maple at 305 Windsor Park Lane

Jim made a site visit, took photos and shared his observations

Pano also went and took photos and spoke to the homeowner who reported that falling limbs had damaged his car.

The tree crowds the curb space, the roots are pillowing and there is visible breakage and rot.

Andrew will visit the site post meeting to review and examine before making a decision. A vote was tabled until Andrew could weigh in with his insight. Andrew reported after visiting the site, agreed with removal. A letter of recommendation was sent to the TWP on March 28, 2024

### Tree Lottery

Update planning for Tree Lottery scheduled for April 20, 2024

Jim and Felicia tagged 120 trees at Tree Authority. The species available via Spring Lottery are as follows: red maple-12; lemarckii serviceberry-12; yellow bird magnolia- 12; norway spruce- 12; swamp white oak- 12; princeton elm- 12; black cherry-6; cherokee dogwood- 12; American sycamore- 12; heritage river birch- 12

Update the Tree Lottery form to include if a volunteer is needed for the delivery and/or planting the tree. Felicia requests that we use Qualtrix; Pano and Marie request that we use Google Forms. Alexis checked and found use of Google Forms is acceptable to the TWP (3/29)

Felicia requests an auto-email that requires participants to confirm their intention to pick up a tree; it will also list their tree selections for future reference, in case we experience similar registration challenges as the fall

Andrew to create a summary of the tree species needs to be included in information to promote viability after planting

Tree lottery timeline: Marie to begin posting to social media, promoting the giveaway ASAP; Felicia to share the info for the website with Alexis by Friday, March 1; Tree lottery to open by March 11; form will be live until March 24; Felicia to notify winners via email through the Shade Tree email address around April 8; Marie to text recipients a reminder text on April 18; trees to be unloaded on April 19 Andrew volunteered to do a short training on planting for HHS volunteers at 3 pm; tree lottery Saturday, April 20

### Other Business.

#### Geomapping

Andrew put together a Cover Assessment and Tree Benefits Report using iTree Canopy using 600 random points for the committee to review.

Based on the data entered, we have approximately 33% of the township with tree and shrub cover class.

Alexis also utilized iTree software, using 500 points, to assess tree canopy in the township and came up with similar numbers

Discussion for the township need to support the planting of a lot more public trees Based on data, our goal would be to maintain the current tree and shrub cover class percentage. Discussion about how to logistically implement review of tree canopy annually to ensure we are meeting this goal of maintenance percentage

#### Code Language

The committee is concerned over ambiguous language in the code. One example is whether a Public Tree, which is suggested for removal, should be referred to the Shade Tree Commission for our recommendation.

Andrew suggested that this is where a township arborist is essential. Jim reported that a TWP arborist was a top recommendation of the Open Spaces plan.

Felicia makes a motion for Marie to speak @ the Commissioner's meeting asking for clearer language in the code and to request a township arborist; it was seconded by Pano. Voted on unanimously.

Heritage Tree Recognition process. Not Discussed

TWP list of removed trees annually. Alexis is continuing to work on building the 2024 list.

#### General Discussion

Jim presented an idea that he shared with Commissioner Gerry Hart regarding including tree giveaway information in new resident packet. Some discussion.

Discussion continued about the number of new residents within the township annually and if we could STC logistically absorb that number of trees in addition to the regular lotteries

Alexis agreed to look into if there was data about new residents

The meeting ended at 9:00 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday March 25, 2024 at 7:30 pm.