



STC Meeting Notes | *Wednesday, April 10, 2019*

Participants:

In attendance: Carl Andresen, Rita Stevens, John Kennedy, Collin Watson, Kathy Hemsley, Roman Procyk, Abington Township: Andy Oles, Trish Gallagher- guest, Marc Wiggins-Dog park representative

Calendar

- **Earth Day, Monday, April 22, Roychester Park**
- **Arbor Day: Saturday, April 27, 2019, 10 am to noon**
- **Next STC meeting, Wednesday, May 8, 2019, 7:30 pm**

WELCOME AND REVIEW AGENDA

FINANCIAL

1. Update- balances- *Arbor Day expenses*
 - a. *No significant change or report on finance*
 - b. *The trees have been ordered for Arbor Day*
 - c. *Roychester park oak tree will be replaced*
2. 2019 Grants- TV Watershed - *UPDATE: Hallowell project was not selected for funding- discuss options;*
 - a. *Abington was one of many applicants*
3. Memorial donation- park bench plus trees at Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary- *to be coordinated with C2P2 restoration project*
4. Fall tree giveaway- *no funds identified*

ADVISORY

1. Land Development Application LD-19-01: Proposed existing building revisions and parking lot at the Southeast Corner of Highland and Kenmore Ave- *field assessment completed in March (Carl); recommendations forwarded to the applicant, Planning Commission, Administration & Code Committee and the Board of Commissioners.*
 - a. *no update / continue on a watch mode*

2. Street Tree master plan for TC street trees- *proposal: apply for 2020 Tree Vitalize Forestry Management Grant to refresh 2014 street tree inventory, and to detail a maintenance plan, in partnership with the Public Works staff - letter of intent due May 1; discussion: New benchmark-Lakewood Ohio*
 - a. *Rita proposed the idea of applying for a grant to work on the street tree inventory. Rita spoke about a community in Ohio that has an accomplished street tree maintenance program. A discussion continued about what a maintenance program might look like for Abington and how that it could be handled. Possibly using i-Tree or other electronic method to track.*
 - b. *Discussion on who would do the tree work, how might the work be funded*
 - c. *Possibly start small and plan in the growth. Including more trees and areas year over year. Establish a standard.*
 - d. *All agreed to submit a letter of intent to pursue*

3. Planning- *benchmark Lakewood OHIO master plan; update on Township projects*
 - a. *Discussed the outline shared regarding the Lakewood program. How can we move toward this. what are next steps, etc.*

ACTIVE PROJECTS

1. Inventory and Tree Tending- *update (Collin and Rita)*
 - a. *Collin visited and prepared a list of status of trees, observations, recommendations*
 - b. *Collin reviewed the list and we discussed maintenance needs*
 - c. *Discussed a program to edge and mulch*
 - d. *Rita reported that she is working with the PHS tree inventory software along with adding the street tree data from several years ago*

2. Earth Day at Roychester Park coordinated by Commissioner Carswell. *(Andy and Rita)- request to have mulch delivered and STC guidance on tending the newly planted oak trees*

- a. *Rita reported on an effort to do an ED event and will be assisting with some tree care at Roychester park. Andy to arrange for mulch delivery to the park.*
- 3. *Arbor Day- complete plans and procurement for April 27, 2019, 10 am to noon*
 - a. *Dennis Dougherty / North Hills Park is the location*
 - b. *3 trees selected: london plane, oak, 10:30 tree selection walk, 11 am rain barrel workshop and state tree forester to visit at 1130 am*
 - c. *8:30 am to load up at Grove park*
- 4. *ASD request- tree-planting program for native shade trees on the campus of Abington Junior High School, in partnership with the Science Department- site walk April 5- next steps*
 - a. *Rita and Collin met with school district reps to listen and consider STC assistance for their forest /classroom project. Tim has a June deadline*
 - b. *STC assisting with layout and design, tree selection, consider supporting a tree planting event in the fall*
- 5. *Ardasley Wildlife Sanctuary- C2P2 project - contractor to begin in April (Andy)*
 - a. *Andy to follow up with Think Green to verify April start*
- 6. *Ardasley Wildlife Sanctuary- EHT - ongoing (Collin and Rita)*
 - a. *The results so far on the attention to tree care and the sight inspections have gone well. Work is progressing. No planting observed yet. Spring planting*
- 7. *Memorial Island- ongoing (Joe)*
 - a. *project moving along 75k raised so far*
 - b. *soil moving and hardscaping, utility work to start soon*
- 8. *Fall Bare Root Trees Planting- 2 potential sites: Hallowell riparian and Roslyn Park*
 - a. *propose activity at these locations in the fall for the bare root tree activity*

STC ADMINISTRATIVE

- 1. *2019 annual report- finalize and schedule presentation for Public Affairs Committee (Andy, Rita)*
 - a. *annual report ready to go/report to be presented at the May township meeting*
- 2. *Landscape ordinance- update and next steps (Rita)*

- a. *the ordinance is in the process along with other components of zoning under consideration*
3. Intern opportunity to support social media *scope of work (Rita)*
 - a. *Discussion continues into May meeting*
4. Delaware River Watershed Restoration Survey- *coordinate response with EAC and watershed associations*
 - a. *We have been asked to participate and the survey will be coming soon*

NEW ITEMS

1. *Comments about the observations regarding the copper beech at the elementary school- reach out to school district to deliver feedback*
2. *A township family has contacted the STC regarding a neighbor's tree which is observed as becoming a hazard- Rita will follow up*

GRANTS TO BE CONSIDERED

1. C2P2 for phase one AWS restoration- *goal is to complete in 2019, and apply for phase 2 in 2020*
2. Tree Vitalize Watersheds application for 2019- *project was not funded for 2019*
3. 2020 Tree Vitalize Community Forestry Grant 2020 per above *letter of intent due May 1*
4. Proposal-*seek 2020 ISA Arbor Day of Service for Ardsley Burial Park*
 - a. *reaching out to this opportunity - should we pitch this -*

REFERENCE: STC ACTIVE PROGRAMS

- **Inventories**
 - Street tree inventory- need to update and recommend master plan
 - Public space ash tree survey- revisit?
 - Park survey to prioritize future plantings- underway
 - Grove Park trees- to be inventoried and tagged spring 2019

- **Ordinance and Best Practices**
 - 2018 TreeVitalize Community Forestry Management Grant project- complete
 - Township request for a TC tree maintenance plan- in progress
 - Open space plan- coordinate with larger Township initiative

- **Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary**
 - C2P2 project - contractor to begin April 2019
 - Edgehill Tyson project / AWS overlay- STF and staff field visits 11/28,30/2018 to align on tree plan and protection; clearing work and construction of drainage feature underway; planting scheduled for spring 2019

- **Tree Planting and Care- Priority Sites and Initiatives**
 - Abington- Monitored trees planted Memorial Island spring 2017- 2 dead; replaced and added 5 trees November 2017; OYR large canopy trees- needs to be contracted - safety considerations
 - Ardsley Cemetery- sugar maple tree scape installed December 2018
 - Ardsley Community Center- monitor trees planted 2016-2017- replace 2 dead
 - Crestmont Park- monitor trees planted 2015-2016- all doing well- add CSX trees spring 2018?
 - Deal Park- planted spring 2018 ; monitor
 - Edge Hill Woods-monitor test trees planted fall 2017 with deer fencing land near Edgecomb entrance

- Grove Park- Riparian restoration and Tree planting- spring and fall 2017; Tree survey and labeling- winter 2018-2019
- Hallowell Park- monitor bare root and container planted fall 2017; applied for but not selected for 2019 TV Watershed grant to plant riparian area
- North Hills Park- added 3 trees fall 2018- site for 2019 Arbor Day
- Parkdale Avenue- need to limb up trees planted through PECO grant- fall 2018
- Penbryn Park- monitor trees planted fall 2016- doing well
- Rockwell Park- planted fall 2018- monitor
- Roslyn public and private spaces- TD Green Streets planted 2017; monitor
- Roychester Park- succession planting Nov 2017; monitor
- St. Ann's Church- planted fall 2018
- Wanamaker Road- desirable planting space; no active project

- **Outreach and PR**

- Volunteers
 - i. Tree Tenders/ Friends of Parks- how to grow and support?
 - ii. Student volunteers- AWS; Grove; AJH tree planting project
 - iii. Corporate volunteers- TD Bank, Inframark
- Township communications
 - i. Township newsletter, calendar, website
 - ii. New residents' package - follow to assess impact
 - iii. Township permit package
- STC social media (we own abingtontrees.com URL)
 - i. Email, Facebook page
 - ii. Blog at www.abingtontrees.com
- Private Trees
 - i. Tree Giveaway 2017 CSX grant- highly successful; repeat in 2020?

ii. Push for tree preservation and protection