



Meeting Notes:

August 9, 2017

Grove House, 7:30 to 9:00 pm

Attendees: Kathy Weir, Tim Gilmour, Kathryn Helmsley, Rita S, Andy Oles (Township management), Joe Ascenzi, Ed Hayes, John Kennedy

CALENDAR

- Next STC meeting- Wednesday, September 13, 7:30 pm
- Tree Tenders Training- Warminster, PA, September 18 and 25, and October 2, 2017
- Walk in Penn's Woods, October 1, 2017
- Bare Root Tree delivery- early November
- Tree City USA application- December

FINANCIAL

1. Overview- update
 - a. Kathy gave a report on finances
2. New Grant Applications
 - a. CSX Tree Give Away fall 2011 (\$5000 to give away 150 trees)- submitted
 - i. Rita reviewed this new opportunity by way of PHS-we expect to know the final disposition of funds by end of August. Possible sources for shade trees explored. If funds are awarded we will be ready with tree selection and source.
 - ii. Looking for 'friends of' groups to partner with
 - b. 2018 Tree Vitalize Forestry Management Grant (\$17,800 project for ord. devt.)
 - i. Discussed our desire to improve our tree ordinance efforts
 - ii. Rita explained this opportunity and process -
 - iii. Next steps to got to township commissioners for approval for matching funds
 - iv. Preliminary meeting with Bob Wells of Morris Arboretum to discuss process to re-write tree ordinance

3. 2018 budget request - Meeting Discussion followed
 - a. Rita shared an outline for 2018 request of funds-
 - b. Request again for Bare root tree supplies and outreach/friends of parks are highlighted
 - c. Discussed getting resources for summer internship help for summer tree care- Andy explained how the township may work with summer help and interns - discussion continued about how to get the volunteer help to maintain trees through the summer
 - d. Cost of tree maintenance discussed - damaged water bags, watering of trees, damaged trees needing replacement
 - e. Grant matching requested for the C2P2 grant and the possibility of the ordinance re-write grant
 - f. Requesting the consideration of funds for a consulting arborist in future years after the tree ordinance effort moves along to a reality
 - g. Ash tree management discussed needs based on preliminary township tour which identified 60+ trees that are in bad condition and will need removal - the township will be advised to plan appropriate resources in the coming years to address this issue- safety hazard issues
 - h. Outreach for the ash tree emerald ash borer issue should be part of our outreach fund use

ADVISORY

1. No new requests or updates

ARDSLEY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

1. Update - initial C2P2 submission and project plan
 - a. Rita shared documents that were prepared for the initial submission for the C2P2 grant
 - b. There are a few documents remaining that are due for submission to DCNR and these are underway

FALL TREE PROJECTS

1. Residential - planning for tree giveaway (subject to successful CXS grant application)
 - a. See above
2. Bare Root Trees for Hallowell Park design and priorities
 - a. Hallowell Park residents have been approached and are very receptive to a focus on halowell park and the need for volunteers

3. Ash Tree Survey- August-September
 - a. See above
4. AWS- Walk in Penn's Woods - October 1
 - a. STC will be sponsoring this walking program at AWS - Rita and Tim will spearhead this effort

Rita reported that the STC received a donation from Diane of Collins Native Plant Nursery in Abington of 2 dozen or so native plants brought to the Grove Park for planting. Thanks very Much Collins Nursery!