

# **Lower Paxton Township SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

## **Meeting Minutes**

April 26, 2022

### Members in Attendance

Karl Valley  
Tim Murphy  
Rick Wain  
John Whaley  
Austin Gee

### Members Absent

### Also in Attendance

Nick Gehret, Staff Liaison

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Valley called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm on the above date in the Conference Room of the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg.

## **MINUTES**

Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the March 22, 2022 meeting minutes. Mr. Wain seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### 2022 Arbor Day Celebration

Mr. Gehret stated that Arbor Day will be held Thursday, April 28, 2022 at 6:30 pm at the Stray Winds Park on MacIntosh Road. He asked members to arrive around 6:00 pm. Supervisors Lindsey and Zoumas will be in attendance. Andy Brought will not be able to attend, so he sent over the flag and awards that the Supervisors can present to the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Gehret has prepared a description of the tree being planted and the planting instructions for seedlings, and he will circulate talking points via email. Mr. Murphy will do the readings since Mr. Whaley will not be there. Seedling vouchers will be given out at the event. Members will meet on May 9<sup>th</sup> to pot the seedlings so residents can pick them up starting on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Spotted Lanternfly

Members noticed the Spotted Lanternfly information as posted on the Township pages. The post included images and a small article. Mr. Murphy will prepare another one that tells people about trapping the spotted lanternflies. Mr. Whaley commented there are sticky traps in addition to the tulle that Mr. Murphy mentioned.

### Shade Tree Commission

#### Approved Species List

Mr. Whaley distributed a draft document for the other members to review for the next meeting. He explained that he tried to cover different scenarios and include background

information and some photos to help people make a good choice when selecting a tree. The document may also help them see what the tree will look like at its maturity. He noted that when there is a commercial development with a landscape plan, it would be better for them to propose what they would like, and let the Shade Tree Commission review it and make recommendations on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Valley shared a copy of what Susquehanna Township gives out that is intended to help residents select trees, and it gives much less information than the list John is working on.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Tree Inspections

Mr. Valley stated he was asked to inspect a Red Maple that was 22” in diameter in Devon Manor on Bristol Drive. The tree was already cut down and the homeowner will be having the stump removed.

Mr. Gehret stated he has received a few requests for tree inspections and asked members to look at them before the next meeting. Mr. Valley suggested rotating the tree inspection assignments as was done in the past. Mr. Wain suggested each member could review the ones near where they live.

Mr. Valley asked if there was an update on the Black Walnut tree at the intersection of Catherine Street, Ranger Road, and Tee Road. Mr. Gehret stated he spoke to the homeowner who said he would do it when he can. He added that Public Works doesn’t maintain trees on private property, because of the liability issue. Members discussed various scenarios to try to get the trees removed.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT & COMMISSIONERS COMMENT**

Mr. Wain noted that the plaque for Norm Lacasse’s tree has been reinstalled and it looks great. The material looks like it will withstand the weather much better. The tree also looks good, and he will go back shortly and remove the stakes.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Wain noted the next Shade Tree Commission meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2022, at 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Hiner, Recording Secretary