

**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP  
SHADE TREE COMMISSION MINUTES  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2017  
7:00 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER: 7 PM**

**X ASHBROOK   X D'AMORE   X NEMETH   X ZIEGLER**

**X BOS LIAISON: BOYLE-NESTER**

**X TOWNSHIP STAFF: LEE**

**X TOWNSHIP ARBORIST: METZ**

**2. PLAN REVIEWS**

- a. **EDP 2016-17 – 337 Barren Hill Road – construction of residential home.**  
Applicant is proposing to remove 308 caliper inches of trees. Currently proposing approximately 220 caliper inches of replacement, seeking waiver for 88 caliper inches (29% replacement waiver)

Tim Miller and Dana Metzger, the owners of the property at 337 Barren Hill Road, appeared before the STC to present their plans noting the number of trees proposed for removal and the number of trees proposed for replanting. The applicant's initial plan came in with 50 shade trees proposed ranging in diameter size of 3 inches, 4 inches, 5 inches and 6 inches as well as 20 8 ft tall evergreens, bringing the caliper inches of replacement to 240 replacement. Upon further discussion with the Shade Tree Commission taking into consideration of the applicant's concern of the number of trees required to be replanted on the site and the Shade Tree Commission's request to include some understory trees such as minor flowering trees coupled the concerns of the survival rate of the trees that are greater than 3 caliper inches proposed, the STC and the applicant came to an agreement of keeping the same number of the proposed 50 shade trees but decreasing the caliper inches down to 1.5 but adding 20 minor flowering trees to be planted with the shade trees and keeping the 20 8 ft. tall evergreen trees. This nets the applicant to plant a total of 90 trees but decrease the total caliper inches down to 145.

Ms. Karen Nemeth made the motion to recommend granting the waiver of 163 caliper inches of the 308 caliper replacement requirement and accepting the replanting schedule of the 50 shade trees at 1.5 caliper inches, 20 evergreens at 8 ft height and 20 minor flowering trees (species recommended: dogwood, service berries, ironwood) to bring the replacement caliper inches to 145. This motion was seconded by Mr. David D'Amore. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. **SLD 09-15** – Verizon Wireless – update of plans for LD application for Verizon Wireless. STC's recommendation from September, 2015 meeting attached. The applicant is not seeking any waivers – just submitting for recommendation of updated plans. The minutes of the Sept. 2015 meeting discussing the original Verizon Wireless application is attached.

Mr. James Faber attended the meeting to represent Verizon Wireless. Verizon Wireless received recommendation from the STC back in September, 2015 for a land development application. Since then, the applicant has made changes to the plans and will be removing less trees on site. With the updated plan, the applicant is now removing 163.5 caliper inches of trees versus the 187 caliper inches of trees in 2015. The new plan proposes a replanting schedule of 28 shade trees, 27 evergreens at 8 ft. height and 30 shrubs. The applicant has requested a waiver to exceed the maximum substitution allowed of 30% to 45% in order to meet the replacement requirement using evergreens.

A motion was made by Ms. Karen Nemeth, seconded by Ms. Leigh Ashbrook to recommend acceptance of the replacement schedule composed of 28 shade trees, 30 shrubs, and 27 - 8 ft. tall evergreens and allow the applicant to exceed the maximum substitution allowed for the use of evergreens in the replacement schedule. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **3. RE-ORGANIZATION**

- a. Selection of Chair
- b. Selection of Vice Chair

Upon discussion, the group requested that the current Chair (Mr. Steve Ziegler) and the Vice Chair (Ms. Leigh Ashbrook) continue their role as the Chair and Vice-Chair respectively. Both Mr. Ziegler and Ms. Ashbrook accepted. The motion to designate the Chair as Mr. Ziegler and Vice-Chair as Ms. Ashbrook were approved by voice vote.

### **4. APPROVAL OF THE DEC, 2016 MEETING MINUTES**

The December, 2016 meeting minutes were approved by voice vote.

### **5. ANNOUNCEMENTS - NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2017**

### **6. ADJOURNMENT – 8:30 PM**