

**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES, AUGUST 1, 2023 AT 7:00 PM (VIRTUAL)**

**Members Present:** Chair Christian Fassbender, Vice-Chair Natalie Borkowski, David D'Amore, Vera Kosabutski

**Liaisons In-Attendance:** BOS Liaison, Jacy Toll; Staff Liaison, Samantha Zrillo

**Unable to Attend:** Arborist John Hosbach; Assistant Township Manager, Craig McAnally

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM.

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**PLAN REVIEWS:**

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Tree Giveaway

Mr. Fassbender asked if ten pines could be added to the species list so there is a conifer option. The board agreed.

A motion to accept thirty Swamp White Oaks, thirty Red Maples, thirty Princeton Elms, forty Moonglow Magnolia, forty American Hornbeam, forty Cherokee Brave Dogwood, ten Paw Paws, thirty Eastern Redbuds, and ten Eastern White Pines was seconded— motion passed unanimously.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Mr. Fassbender announced that members of the Board are working on fall plantings now with Karen Kabnick and Canopy Colonial Trees and will report back to the Shade Tree Commission during the September 2023 meeting. He mentioned that if anyone knew any businesses that wanted to partner to come forward.
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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**July 18, 2023 Meeting**

There was a unanimous vote to approve the July meeting minutes.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

In attendance: Eli Glick

Mr. Glick shared several photos with the Board of his neighboring property to show the detention basin/pond that was constructed. Mr. Glick believes the construction of this detention basin/pond has caused damage to the roots of a tree located on his property. He went over a summarized timeline of construction, notices of violation and correspondence between the Township Engineer and the Applicant. Mr. D'Amore asked if a member of the Board should go out to inspect the property. Mr. Fassbender mentioned that this is already on the record from the July 2023 Shade Tree Commission Meeting, that it is on the Township radar, and that the Board would speak with the Township regarding this matter. Mr. D'Amore told Mr. Glick that he understands his frustrations, reiterated that the Board would look into this matter, and that he would visit the property if it were advised as a result of the investigation. Mr. Glick concluded with the reminder that this was constructed without a permit.

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**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

The Board mentioned that the next meeting will be on September 5, 2023.

Mr. D'Amore said that the Boy scouts need to be recruited for the Tree Giveaway. Ms. Kosabutski mentioned she would call the High School to see if any students in need of service hours would volunteer. Mr. D'Amore stated that a small description of each tree should be published in the *Whitemarsh Weekly*. The Board agreed.

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**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

**September 5, 2023 in Person at 7:00 PM**

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

A unanimous vote to adjourn was made at 7:45 PM.