



RADNOR TOWNSHIP SHADE TREE COMMISSION MEETING SUMMARY

April 25, 2012

The comments noted below are the Shade Tree Commission's views only. Clearing and Grading Permits are issued by the Engineering Department, which reviews plans AFTER approval by the Shade Tree Commission.

In attendance were members: Howard Holden, William Thomas, James Ward, Patrick Gillan, Robert Zienkowski, Township Manager and Stephen Norcini, Director of Public Works.

1430 County Line Road 2011-S-12
Boathouse Realty
Review and discuss landscape plan

Thomas Bentley presented a plan preserving the mature Oak Trees along County Line Road with 195 replacement trees. It is possible that more trees will be saved during the construction process. Mr. Norcini has concerns with the buffer trees along Lancaster Ave. in the area of the proposed sewer laterals and potential problems in the future. Preliminary approval was granted.

20 Meadowood Road C 12-01
Request to remove (1) 36" Maple
Compensatory plantings required

Elizabeth Springer appeared on behalf of the homeowner. Foundation of the home is being impacted. Homeowner has a safety concern as the tree with a "V" trunk and dropping limbs hangs over the children's bedrooms. Three Redwood Trees have already been planted as required compensatory plantings. Approval was granted.

209 Atlee Road C 12-02
Removed 8 trees without permit
Request to remove 8 additional trees
Compensatory plantings required

Bernie Drueding presented pictures of the trees proposed to be removed as well as trees already dropped. Numerous trees were either dead or decapitated for numerous years. He was attempting

to clean up the neglected lot which he had recently purchased. All trees except one are proposed to be removed and turned to grass area. Twenty 6-8" Evergreen Trees are proposed to be staggered along the property line as a buffer with the neighbor. As there was some concern with the number of trees to be planted, the commission requested that the applicant return with a landscape plan including the list of compensatory plantings as required by Code. Bill Thomas requested that the tree company be fined for removing trees without first obtaining a permit. This will be discussed by staff. Large canopy trees should be included in the planting schedule. The plan was tabled and the applicant will return next month.

295 S. Ithan Avenue GP 11-49A
Agnes Irwin School
Construction of turf field
Request to remove 11 additional trees
Compensatory plantings required

Kevin McCullough along with Mara Baird displayed an amended grading plan. The impact of new curbing and sidewalk requires the removal of the additional trees. Eleven trees are proposed to be planted as required by Code. The original grading plan needs to be researched with respect to the cubic yards of dirt to be moved for the new field. A slope will assist with the survival of the new trees. Approval was granted.

Agnes Irwin has received notification, after a campus-wide inspection from the DuPont Corporation, that as part of a large class action settlement, the school is entitled to compensation and removal of two trees on campus which have been damaged due to one of DuPont's products. The trees in question are an Eastern Cedar (Juniper) and an 8" Larch. Compensatory plantings for the two trees should be in compliance with the township shade tree ordinance. The exact species and calipers should be reported to the township before their removal. Approval was granted.

Discussion of unlicensed tree companies removing trees in Radnor Township
8 Kinterra Road & 510 Hilaire Road

Murphy's Tree Service - Wayne, Pa - unlicensed -
Still has not responded to the Township
Ten days is being given for company to contact the Township.

Bryn Mawr Landscaping Company - unlicensed -
Township requirements have been satisfied

Discussion of unlicensed tree companies working in Radnor Township

Rick's Tree Service, LLC - unlicensed -
Still has not responded to the Township
Ten days is being given for company to contact the Township

Discussion of work impacting trees

260 Hilldale Road – Complaint of damaged tree(s)

Howard Holden requested that an independent arborist be consulted for his views with respect to the trees affected in this case since two conflicting arborist reports have been submitted.

The builder, Matt Paolino, described the work with the bilco doors which have recently been constructed on the site as well as the stormwater pipes. He submitted a third report from an arborist on the condition of the Hemlocks. He is willing to remove the trees in question and plant the required compensatory plantings. The Township is already holding an escrow for the protection of protected trees should any die or be removed without approval.

It was noted, by the commission members, that the bilco doors were not part of the original approved plan.

Neighbor Barbara Susanin – 256 Hilldale Rd. – The new house is 20 feet from the property line. Construction was approved previously if the house was moved 5 feet. She feels the house was never constructed at the 25 foot line. It appears that the Hemlock Trees are in stress. One of the trees hangs over her property and feels there is a safety issue. She requests that the trees be removed and the new owners replace the trees accordingly.

Bill Thomas was dissatisfied that the required tree protection fence was down, storage material was placed on top of the root system, the builder didn't follow township regulations, and feels the trees were damaged due to this negligence. He is agreement with Ward Tree Co. and doesn't agree with Arader Tree Svc. He feels the trees should come down and compensatory trees should be planted.

Howard Holden again requested that a third arborist be consulted for an independent report and discussed at the next meeting. Mr. Zienkowski stated that this inspection involving all trees would occur and the report will be submitted at the next meeting.

115 Strafford Ave. GP 12-33

Mr. DePallo and Bharat Luthra displayed a plan showing the proposed two stormwater basins, that the Township requested, as well as the proposed plantings as requested by the Shade Tree Commission. Five Mulberry Trees are proposed to be removed for the stormwater basin constructions. 10 Arborvitae and 5 Norway Spruce trees are proposed as part of the buffer for the neighbors. Four trees are also proposed in the basin furthest from the building.

Steve Norcini feels that a monetary penalty needs to be discussed for the trees that were illegally removed. The grading plan as submitted as some issues that the zoning officer is concerned. Land Development approval will be required to add to the existing building and several zoning issues

need to be addressed before a grading permit can be approved. A plan going for SALDO may totally change a planting plan. He also suggested having a comprehensive permit plan and needs to speak with the zoning office and the Township Engineer to figure out what the next move is moving forward.

Mr. Luthra had removed several parking spaces as per a zoning request. The plans show a proposed deck, however, the applicant is stating that the deck is not part of this application.

Mr. Holden moved to table the application.

New Business

Valley Forge Military Academy – removed 5 trees

Pictures were submitted showing decay and cavities. Arborist's report will be submitted to the Township tomorrow for the record. Once the report is received, a decision can be determined.

Baptist Church (Nursery School) 108 W. Lancaster Ave.

Request from Shreiner Tree Service to remove tree in the area of the nursery school was submitted. Commission recommends an independent arborist determine the condition of the tree.

Revised shade tree ordinance – members are to read through and bring back comments and concerns to the next meeting. It was requested that someone from the Shade Tree Commission attend the EAC May meeting to discuss the proposed shade tree ordinance. Steve Norcini will inform EAC that someone will be attending

The meeting adjourned as there was no more business before the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzan Jones

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