

Hanover Township Shade Tree Advisory Board

The monthly meeting of the Shade Tree Advisory Board was held at the Hanover Township Board Room on Monday, October 25, 2021. In attendance were Jane Cook, Blair Bates, Gamini Vedage and Joan Witiak. Township resident Marianne Rivera was also in attendance.

1. The minutes of the September 27, 2021: Approved by Gamini's motion, seconded by Jane.
2. Committee Reports
 - a. Construction Plans: Three projects were discussed. Jane reviewed the Willow Crest Farms development proposal and noted that since the extension of Blair Road into the development will be a private drive, there is not a street tree requirement and therefore the number of replacement trees in the plan is sufficient. Jane will draft the comment letter to be sent to Hanover Engineering this week. In reviewing the application for the medical office building at 2201 Schoenersville Road, which is a renovation and expansion of the existing building, it was noted that since there is not a specific list of what variety of tree will be planted where, this needs to be addressed. Several of the trees listed on the proposal are not permitted in new plantings in the Township. Jane will draft a comment letter about this application and send it to Hanover Engineering. In a letter sent on October 18 to Hanover Engineering regarding the Farmhouse Village application, it was noted that since the area of trees in that parcel qualifies as a woodland, the applicant will need to address that as a part of the application process.
 - b. Park Tree Planting: Erik Josephson planted 13 trees on October 18. Mary Ellen will be contacting growers in January for planting oak trees in the spring of 2022.
 - c. Park Tree Maintenance: Watering by Township crews is now on a regular schedule, which will help ensure the survival of the trees planted this week and during the past year. Stakes need to be removed from all the trees planted prior to this year—some stakes are interfering with tree growth.
 - d. Missing Street Trees: Gamini reported that he met with Joan to determine which areas of the Township need to comply with the Street Tree ordinance. He then drew up a map that divides the Township in to 4 distinct areas so that member of the Shade Tree Board can canvass each street and determine which addresses need a street tree to either be replaced because the current tree is dead or because there is currently no street tree. Before the leaves fall would be the best time to assess these street tree needs, so that will be in the next couple of weeks. Gamini will take areas 1 and 2, with Marianne assisting him with those areas. Jane will take area 3, and Blair will take area 4.
 - e. Hanover View Newsletter Article: This is due on January 15 for the Spring 2022 issue, and one possibility is to do an article about what the requirements are for the Township to be designated a Tree USA city, since this might motivate more residents to plant additional trees.
3. Old/New Business: none
4. The next Shade Tree Advisory Board meeting for November is TBD.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Cook