

Abington Township Shade Tree Commision
Meeting Notes
September 9, 2015

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| <p>Participants: Joe Ascenzi Bill Becker Tim Gilmour Ed Hayes Donna Rohner Kara Schoch Charlie Soboleski Glen Stevens Rita Stevens Kathy Weir</p> | <p>Handouts: Agenda August Meeting Minutes 2015 Fall Planting plans (update 9-8-15) STC Financial Summary Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary Strategic Plan ISA CEU Credits post-approval form STC Volunteer Organization (proposed) STC Monthly Tree Tending Projects (Proposed)</p> <p>Exhibits: Edgehill Tyson stormwater design maps</p> |
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1. Opening: Welcome to new volunteer Kara Schoch
2. Approved August meeting minutes.
3. Fall Planting Plans
 - a. Trees , Locations and Planting Dates
 - i. TD GreenStreets program is fully subscribed- total of 96 trees to be planted on November 12 and November 14
 - ii. Green Fund- total of 13 trees to be planted at Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary on October 24 and 10 trees to be planted at Hallowell Park, subject to Friends of Hallowell Park availability
 - iii. Keswick Commons- 14 trees to be planted surrounding the parking lot behind Keswicks Commons, funded by property owner with technical assistance from STC
 - iv. BBNC- 30 trees to be planted by BBNC staff and volunteers
 - v. Private sales- fulfilling 5-10 backordered trees
 - b. Procurement- Joe, Rita and Tim managing procurement of trees , planting supplies and hand tools
 - c. Tool organization- agreed that we need to iprocure and install hardware to organize tools in the tool room. Kathy and Charlie to design.
 - d. Site Preparations- Joe will pick up a rental Dingo and with a member of his staff will pre-dig holes for trees to be planted at Grove Park early on Thursday, November 12

- e. Volunteers for planting- in the coming month, need to finalize volunteer logistics and orientation- Rita, Anna and Bill will coordinate volunteer communications. Rita and Barley VanClief of PHS will organize the October 27 lead volunteer orientation.
 - f. Photography- need a volunteer to photograph planting events. Donna will ask two associates.
 - g. Food- agreed to serve a simple lunch on each volunteer day. Glen to take the lead. Donna suggested donations.
 - h. Tree protection- purchased mesh protectors and water bags for all new public trees. Suggestion was made to look at the effective tree protection used at Montauk Park
 - i. Watering plan- anticipate that little watering will be needed this fall, but that we need to line up a robust volunteer system to water starting in the spring. Rita to ask Hallowell Park Tree Tenders to take a lead role in organizing volunteers.
4. Financial- reviewed current budget vs accrued and anticipated spend for each budget category. Agreed to include purchase of a power trimmer to aid site preparations and maintenance, and possibly a pump to assist with watering operations. Tim, Glen and Rita to research and procure.
 5. Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary
 - a. Edge Hill Tyson Project stormwater management design- Glen presented a detailed analysis of proposed vs. recommended methods for conveying stormwater collected from the Edgehill Tyson residential area to the stormwater retention and detention areas at lower areas within the sanctuary. Consensus is that a natural channel must be used with a strong preference for use of the existing channel.
 - b. Strategic Plan- draft plan was presented that lays out strategic priorities based on a combination of the Land Concepts Land Management Plan, and recommendations from DCNR, PNHP, PAFG and PAFS. This plan was adopted and agreement that it is our starting point for more detailed planning and grant writing.
 6. Let's Talk Trees- cosponsorship with TTFWA, supported by the Abington Free Library. September 21- Native Plants presented by John Kennedy and October 5- caring for our forests presented by Rita Stevens. Each event begins at 7 PM
 7. ISA CEU's- Rita confirmed that participation in ISA events qualifies for ISA CEU's and provided necessary form to be completed for each individual seeking CEU's.
 8. New business- provided draft proposals for a renewed STC volunteer structure commensurate with our growing number and size of programs; and a proposal to begin hosting monthly tree related volunteer opportunities as opposed to concentrating efforts into 2 events per year. Each to be discussed as part of planning for 2016.

NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 7 (1 week earlier than regularly scheduled)

Begin at 7 PM (30 minutes earlier than regularly scheduled; short business meeting combined with annual volunteer social)