



STC Meeting Notes

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

Participants

Joe Ascenzi, Tim Gilmour, Ed Hayes, John Kennedy, Rita Stevens, Charlie Soboleski, Kathy Weir

Upcoming Events/Dates

1. March 12, April 16th (Saturdays) 9am - 1 pm- tree tending at Grove Park
2. April 23- Arbor Day at Ardsley Community Center (Crestmont Park Date TBD)
3. April 13 - Shade Tree Commission Meeting
4. PHS Bare Root Tree Delivery - Wednesday, April 20
5. May 5, 12, 19- Tree Tenders Training at Foulkeways
6. May 14th Ardsley Train Station planting (date subject to change)
7. June 11th Grove garden planted (date subject to change)

Discussion Highlights

1) FINANCIAL

- a. Beginning new year with \$4000 MTRP, \$1000 STC expense, \$183 Cash, \$50 new donation. No new expenses; committed \$500 for purchase of PHS bare root trees for planting at Ardsley CC in April.
- b. New donation received from Wild Birds Unlimited donated \$60

2) ADVISORY

1. Baeder Woods -The Abington Township officials complete review of this project is pending.
2. Edgehill Tyson Reconstruction

- a. A request has been made through Township Manager and Township Engineer for STC participation in an Edgehill Tyson Reconstruction project steering meeting in April, in order to provide comment prior to detailed design of newly surveyed areas.
 - b. STC discussed Pennoni request regarding potential fill sites with Township Manager, Township Engineer and Commissioner Zappone. The STC further considered this matter and concluded that they do not support this idea. Pointing to the Abington Township Comprehensive Plan of 2007 as the referenced reasoning.
 - c. Further review of this project was made of 2 Options for the dry detention basin offered to STC by Pennoni Engineers- Rita reviewed documents with the team and members offered comment. The outcome heavily favored option 1 which among other positive attributes offered the least negative impact to the tree canopy there.
3. Edgehill Woods- request from Commissioner Gillespie regarding possible approaches to stewarding this property. This request was discussed and the committee strongly recommends the establishment of a stewarding style group be established. The STC will put this in their radar screen for future attention.
 4. Trinity Church project feedback - No update

3) PROGRAMS

1. Grove Park
 - a. Tim and Charlie presented a well developed pollinator garden planting plan proposed for the entrance to Grove Park. Plan include a wide selection of virtually all native plants with a few exceptions. Discussion led to the conclusion of an exclusively native selection that can stand as a demonstration garden for the community. Plant selection will focus on plants that will support pollinators such as honey bees and hummingbirds. Charlie and Tim were thanked for their excellent work
 - b. For further consideration to realize this wonderful garden:
 - i. Joe to get prices, Discussed planting in May, Decide on transplant of Hawthorne, Started working on clearing this weekend the 12th
 - c. Another request for an Eagle Project- to be completed at Grove Park and will be focusing on wildlife habitat
 - d. A plan to develop a volunteer approach to the watering chores throughout the season was discussed. It was determined that this need was weekly beginning in June and lasting through

September - of course depends on weather conditions. More to follow on this.

2. Ardsley Community
 - a. Ardsley Community Center Arbor Day program plans and details were thoroughly discussed.
 - i. Trees ordered oaks, Kentucky coffee, crab apples, red maple , Mulch to be delivered by Abington Township, Promo will be needed for the Will do PR for the program
 - ii. EAC to do a rain barrel workshop
 - iii. discussed hours 9-1, rain barrel at noon,
 - b. Gateway planting - This project date is TBD.
3. Discussed Crestmont Park plans with the determination that the MTRP grant remainder will be spent on this project. Tim will be working with Ed Smeal to layout where trees will go and get some feedback from the residents there. Final decision on species and placement will be made based on planting stock availability.
4. Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary- C2P2 grant
 - a. Approval has been given by Public Affairs Committee to apply for C2P2 grant for Ardsley Wildlife Sanctuary and match \$20,000 of MS4 funding and will be put to full Board on March 10.
 - b. Rita distributed a well developed draft of the C2P2 project including narrative and further details including an initial budget estimate. Rita explained that this includes findings and suggestions from a recent walk through of the AWS by several of the STC. Briefly reviewed the documents and details. STC members will review and get feedback to Rita so that this feedback can be incorporated in the final proposal.

Meeting notes prepared by: John Kennedy