



FACTORYVILLE BOROUGH

Monthly Meeting Minutes – Monday, April 13th, 2026

The Factoryville Shade Tree Commission's monthly meeting was held on Monday, April 13th, 2026 at the Factoryville Library. The meeting was called to order at 10:58 am by Joe D'Antoni and seconded by Matt Vlassis.

PRESENT

Joe D'Antoni
Matt Vlassis
Gabe Sorak

ABSENT

ALSO ATTENDING

Linda Tucker

OLD BUSINESS – Minutes from the March 2026 Shade Tree meeting were reviewed and approved by all members.

NEW BUSINESS – Joe updated the group on the LCCD seedling sale, informing the group that he went ahead and purchased 5 eastern white pines and 5 sugar maples. The total cost was \$24. The pickup date for the seedlings is Friday, April 17th at Abington Park in Clarks Summit. Joe said he would send photos to the group after picking them up to show size and maturity.

Linda updated the group on her research regarding Mountain Laurel. Linda relayed that the shrub likes acidic soil (Ph 5.5-6) which she mentions they have at Keystone College. The plant prefers most, well drained, highly organic soil matter. She mentioned that areas near streamsides or with runoff from slopes are ideal. The shrub is shade tolerant, but prefers partly sunny conditions, and not deep shade. Joe mentioned that the Kemmerer slope area under a larger tree might be a good fit since it consists largely of decomposing mulch and has some runoff, though the area is probably drier than ideal. Joe also mentioned Christy Mathewson park with access to water and many areas of dappled sun/shade.

The group decided to meet on Friday, April 24th, for the annual Arbor Day celebration. The group agreed to re-plant/re-place the small eastern white pine that died at Creekside Park for this year's celebration. The seedling that was purchased through the LCCD sale will be used for the planting.

Joe shared a document he downloaded from PPL's monthly email newsletter. The document is a handy reference sheet for plantings under power lines. Native smaller trees and shrubs are identified. Joe said he would upload the sheet to Google drive for all to reference. Joe mentioned he would provide access to the Google drive folders for Linda. Matt confirmed he still has access. Joe mentioned that all Shade Tree documents and photos are stored on the drive.

The group decided on Wednesday, May 6th @ 2pm for a cleanup at Kemmerer Slope which will involve fallen sticks and branches cleanup + tree prunings and health assessments

The group discussed potential conflicts with Monday meetings at 11am starting in September at the start of the fall semester. 9:30am on Mondays was discussed as a possibility as well as Fridays. The group agreed to table the discussion until next month when schedules are clearer.

Linda mentioned that Lou Jasikoff had been over to Keystone College to speak with Kelli Stewart regarding his idea of planting a small apple orchard (~6 trees) at the Lackawanna Trail Elementary Center. Joe reiterated to Matt and Linda that Shade Tree would be interested in participating in whatever way possible.

The group reviewed the Annual Work Plan bullet points for the month of April. All agreed that work items are on track and according to schedule.

The group conducted a post-meeting stick cleanup outside the rear of the Borough Hall.

Matt motioned to adjourn, Joe seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

The next Shade Tree Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 4th, 2026 at 11am.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Joe', located at the bottom center of the page.