



FACTORYVILLE BOROUGH

Monthly Meeting Minutes – Monday, May 5th, 2025

The Factoryville Shade Tree Commission's monthly meeting was held on Monday, May 5th, 2025 at the Factoryville Library. The meeting was called to order at 11:10am by Monika Buczek and seconded by Matt Vlassis.

PRESENT

Joe D'Antoni
Monika Buczek
Matt Vlassis

ABSENT

Gabe Sorak

ALSO ATTENDING

Linda Tucker

OLD BUSINESS – Minutes from the April Shade Tree meeting were reviewed and approved by all members. Joe updated Linda Tucker's email address, and the group reviewed the recent tree plantings, bare root planting procedures in a newly created document, the Arbor Day celebration, and handling press releases for news media outlets going forward.

NEW BUSINESS – The group reviewed the TreePennsylvania wrap-up process. Joe discussed the exit survey/questionnaire he had to complete as well as entering the trees into the Tree Keeper software. Joe mentioned there were two upcoming webinars. One from Penn State Extension for the care and maintenance of trees, and another for the fall grant term for TreePennsylvania. Joe said he would send a link to the Zoom meeting to Monika who expressed interest in attending.

Joe mentioned that the fall grant term would begin on June 2nd, with trees being delivered in early November. The group discussed the possibility of obtaining more trees in the fall. Joe mentioned he would survey Mr. Kearney at LTEC to assess his satisfaction with recent plantings, and Matt mentioned the Lackawanna Trail High School as a possibility for future planting sites.

Joe updated the group that the linden tree planted at Creekside Park two years ago has died. The group is currently deciding on a plan of action to deal with that situation.

Joe reviewed tree spacing with the group, and clarified that spacing is measured from left to right, covering the entire tree canopy. Therefore, only half of that distance from the center of the trunk is needed for adequate tree separation when planting. When trees are used as a border with interconnecting canopies, tree spacing should be somewhat less than this estimate to allow for mixed crown growth.

The group reviewed the health of the bare root trees planted at Christy Mathewson Park last spring. Joe informed the group that all of the trees are healthy and have leafed out this year.

Joe reminded the group that we should conduct an early spring cleanup around the trees at CM park with a string trimmer to clean up the tall grass Jim cannot get to with his mower.

The group planned May 13th through the 15th at 10AM for conifer plantings at Creekside Park. Joe reminded the group to wear tough outer clothing to avoid the burs and pickers in that area. Monika mentioned she would reach out to Jaden to confirm the trees have been delivered to the Keystone greenhouse.

The group discussed summer cleanups at CM Park and Creekside Park.

The group reviewed the Annual Work Plan bullet points for the month of May. All agreed that work is on track, and according to schedule.

The group did not conduct a post-meeting cleanup.

Monika motioned to adjourn the meeting, Matt seconded the motion; the meeting was adjourned at 11:39 am.

The next Shade Tree Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 2nd, 2025 at 11:00 am.