

Palmer Township, Northampton County

Shade Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

September 4th, 2025, 6:30PM, Lower-Level Municipal Meeting Room, 3 Weller Place

1. Roll Call

- a. Present: Shannon Wisniewski, David Demopoulos, Pat Romano, Sandi Bush, Scott Kistler, Lee Hilbert, and Zach Trexler.
- b. Absent: None
- c. The meeting was called to order at 6:28PM.

2. Old Business

a. Newsletters/Community Outreach

i. Q4: (due mid-September)

- 1. Wisniewski stated that she sent the article in already and Trexler confirmed receipt.

ii. Q1: 2026 (due mid-December) – street tree planting/bare root photos

- 1. Wisniewski stated that this article would focus on the upcoming tree plantings. Bush suggested that pictures would work the best as compared to words and text.

b. Grants

i. Tree Pennsylvania Bare Root Spring 2025

- 1. Wisniewski stated that we are still waiting on a delivery date which is scheduled for mid-November. She said the soil samples from Nulton Avenue had to be completely dried out which had delayed the test results but that they will be coming in soon. Kistler asked if they wanted samples of the root system as well and Wisniewski confirmed that they would like to use them for educational purposes.

ii. Tree Pennsylvania Bare Root Fall 2026

- 1. Wisniewski stated that she and Bush attended the last Recreation Advisory Committee meeting to discuss tree plantings in parks. She said that the Rec Board doesn't really want more trees in parks, so they discussed parking lot & buffer trees instead. She suggested that one of the questions from the Rec Board was regarding resident notifications in relation to buffer trees. She suggested that since it is Township property the Township could inform the residents of the plantings but not need their permission. Wisniewski asked if resident permission was obtained when planting along the buffer at Labarre Park and Kistler stated that it was not, but that the trees didn't encroach upon resident property. Romano asked if the growth canopy of the trees is considered

when deciding where to plant them and Kistler confirmed.

Wisniewski stated that Dan McKinney would have a reply back to her by the end of the month regarding the plantings.

c. Street Tree Program

- i. Wisniewski asked Trexler where things stand and he stated that the project is currently open for bids. He said bid opening is set for September 10th with the award date set for the September 15th Board of Supervisors meeting. Romano asked when the bid was posted online, and he said it went live on the 21st of August.

d. Website content

- i. Wisniewski stated that last meeting we discussed condensing all of the information on our website page. Bush asked if there are any metric with how many people visit the website and click on certain items and Trexler was unsure. Wisniewski stated that she picked out four of the most useful items to be kept on the website which are How to Prune a Tree, Don't Top a Tree, 10 Myths about Trees and Stormwater Retention Runoff. She said she will prepare all of this into a proposal and send it to Trexler.

3. New Business

a. ArcheWild 2024 Tree Planting – Replants

- i. Trexler stated that ArcheWild is looking for a recommendation of what to replant in place of the dead Musclewood trees. Kistler stated that the other species that have a dead tree will be replaced with the same species, but that we had a broad failure with the Musclewood's so we are looking to replace them with a different species at this time. The Commission discussed the presence of overhead utilities at the various replanting locations. Kistler shared the contact from ArcheWild with Wisniewski, and she stated that she would reach out to him.

4. Reports

a. Board of Supervisors

- i. None at this time.

5. Public Comment

- a. None at this time.

6. For the Good of the Order

7. Next meeting: October 2nd, 2025

8. Adjournment

- a. Romano made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Bush seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 7:00PM.