



TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

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Tree Commission Organizational & Regular Meeting Agenda

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86970986684>

January 17, 2023

5:15 pm

I. CALL TO ORDER II. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

a. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Tree Commission will need to designate the Township Public Works director as the Temporary Chair in order to conduct the nominations and election of the Chair of the Tree Commission for 2023. A motion will be required to nominate the Township Public Works Director as Temporary Chair. Once appointed Temporary Chair, the Public Works Director will seek nominations for the Chair of the Tree Commission. Once the Chair has been elected, he/she will be responsible for conducting the remainder of the nominations and elections of Vice Chair and the Secretary for the Tree Commission. The Public Works Director has historically been appointed Secretary.

Recommended motion: That the Tree Commission appoint David Modricker, Public Works Director, as Temporary Chair of the Tree Commission.

- A. *Chair Recommended motion: That the Tree Commission appoint _____, as Chair of the Tree Commission for 2023.*
- B. *Vice Chair Recommended motion: That the Tree Commission appoint _____, as Vice Chair of the Tree Commission for 2023.*
- C. *Secretary Recommended motion: That the Tree Commission appoint _____, as Secretary of the Tree Commission for 2023.*

b. ELECTION OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Recommended motion: That the Tree Commission appoint _____, as representative(s) of the Education and Outreach Committee for 2023.

B. SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVIEW

Recommended motion: That the Tree Commission appoint _____, as representative(s) of the Subdivision and Land Development Plan Review Committee for 2023.

c. SET MEETING DATES FOR 2023

It has been the Commission's practice to hold its regular meetings at 5:15 pm on the third Monday of every month. Additionally, if the regular meeting date were to fall on a holiday, the Commission typically held its meeting on the Tuesday following the holiday.

In 2023, there will be two (2) regular meeting dates that will need to be held on the Tuesdays following the recognized holiday. Staff recommends that the regular meetings held normally on Mondays for February 21st (President's Day) and June 20th (Juneteenth), be changed to the following Tuesdays respectively February 22nd, and June 21st since all Township offices will be closed on these regular meeting dates in recognition of the stated holidays.
2023 Meeting dates line out as follows:

January 17th (Tuesday in observance of MLK Jr. Day)
February 21st (Tuesday in observance of President's Day)
March 20th
April 17th
May 15th
June 20th (Tuesday in observance of Juneteenth)
July 17th
August 21st
September 18th
October 16th
November 20th

Recommended motion: Accept Tree Commission meeting dates shown above.

III. CITIZEN'S INPUT

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. November 21, 2022

V. SPECIAL REPORTS

None.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. EDUCATION & OUTREACH

10 minutes

Narrative

Education & Outreach subcommittee will provide a brief report.

Recommended motion: That the Tree Commission provide recommendation on the monthly article topics.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. CONSENT AGENDA- Nothing to report

2. 2023 FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION WORK PLAN & GOALS

30 minutes

Narrative

The Tree Commission review the attached draft work plan and goals for 2023 prepared by the Arborist and provide comments.

Recommended motion: The Tree Commission accept the work plan.

3. 2022 Street Tree Planting Update

Narrative

The Tree Commission accept the Arborists report on the 2022 Street Tree Planting Contract.

Recommended motion: The Tree Commission accept the Arborists report on the 2022 Street Tree Planting Contract.

Staff Recommendation

The Tree Commission accept the Arborists report on the 2022 Street Tree Planting Contract.

VIII. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Arborist Report - Verbal

IX. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

X. CALENDAR ITEMS

- **February Agenda**
 - 1. Urban Tree Canopy Report (tentative)**
 - 2. 2022 Tree Inventory**
 - 3. Ferguson Township Tree Plan Update**

XI. ADJOURNMENT

**FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, November 21, 2022
5:15 PM**

I. ATTENDANCE

The Tree Commission held its regular meeting on Monday, November 21, 2022. In attendance were:

COMMISSION:

Scott Pflumm
Marc McDill
Allyson Muth
Josh Potter
Mike Jacobson

STAFF:

David Modricker, Public Works Director
Summer Brown, Recording Secretary
Larry Maginnis, Township Arborist

Others in Attendance: None.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Marc McDill called the Monday, November 21, 2022 Ferguson Township Tree Commission (FTTC) meeting to order at 5:19 pm.

III. CITIZEN'S INPUT

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Marc McDill made a motion to approve the September 19th meeting minutes, Dr. Mike Jacobson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Marc McDill made a motion to approve the October 17th meeting minutes, Dr. Mike Jacobson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. SPECIAL REPORTS

None.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Mr. Scott Pflumm stated that the subcommittee is still working on the December article. Mr. Maginnis suggested making the article about requesting a street tree. Dr. McDill suggested future article topics could include street trees and climate change.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda

Mr. Larry Maginnis stated that he was recently contacted by the State College

Borough Water Authority regarding the property located at 2079 Pine Cliff Road. After speaking with the water authority Mr. Maginnis would like to get the Commission's input. Mr. Maginnis stated that 5-6 years ago a tree was planted directly on top of a water box. Mr. Maginnis provided some background information and pictures of the location. SCBWA has requested the removal of this tree for multiple reasons. Possible root damage to the box and in the event a failure with the box occurs they will be unable to work around the tree to repair. Mr. Maginnis noted that replanting in this location will be difficult. The Commission discussed a possible smaller planting in that location and working with the property owner on a tree species.

2. REVIEW 2023 TREE PLANTING CONTRACT

Mr. Maginnis reviewed the 2023 Tree Planting contract with the Commission. Mr. Maginnis stated that this contract is a combination of replacement trees and new planting opportunities. Mr. Maginnis reviewed the locations and preferred species. Mr. Maginnis did note that this year he will be ordering 2.5 inch balled and burlap trees. The Commission reviewed the list and species.

3. DISCUSS 2023 MEETING DATES

The Commission reviewed the draft 2023 meeting dates with no corrections needed. **Dr. McDill called for a motion to approve, Mr. Pflumm seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.**

VIII. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. ARBORIST REPORT

Mr. Maginnis stated that all stump grinding has been completed. He, along with the Public Works crew have been working on expanding the pollinator gardens around the Township building. Mr. Maginnis stated he has also been working on maintenance pruning. Mr. Maginnis is also working on the 2023 Tree City USA application.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE TREE COMMISSION

X. ADJOURNMENT

The November 21, 2022 Tree Commission meeting ended at 6:30 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

David J. Modricker, Secretary
For the Tree Commission

2023 FTTC Meeting Dates

Meetings will take place at 5:15 pm on the third Monday of the month. Meetings will be held via hybrid format until further notice.

January 17th (Tuesday in observance of MLK Jr. Day)

February 22nd (Tuesday in observance of President's Day)

March 20th

April 17th

May 15th

June 20th (Tuesday in observance of Juneteenth)

July 17th

August 21st

September 18th

October 16th

November 20th

2023 Ferguson Township Tree Commission Work Plan

Key:

H = High
M = Medium
L = Low

Approved by the FTTC__01-17-2023_____

Approved by the BOS__01-17-2022_____

	Activity	Priority	Board Goal	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Comments
1	Evaluate Insect & Disease Threats to Ferguson Township's Urban Forest. The Tree Commission should offer advise on mitigation strategies to limit the Township's exposure.	H	1,4,5		X	X		Develop Information for residents regarding invasive pests.
2	Planting and Removal Recommendations. Review, comment and make recommendations to the Arborist on proposed tree removals and plantings.	H	4,5,6			X	X	Continue using the native but diverse planting strategy and routinely update township plating list.
3	Identify Planting Opportunities. Continue to identify tree planting locations that have not been utilized in order to continue the expansion of the Urban Forest.	M	3,4,7			X	X	Locate opportunities to "fill in" or expand the urban forest
4	Land Development Plan Reviews. Continue to review, comment, and provide recommendations on land development plans that are submitted to the Township.	H	3,4,8			X		Continue to lobby for the use of native species. Continue to use right tree right place logic.
5	Tree Canopy Survey Utilization. Continue to review information received in the Tree Canopy Survey. Use this data to make recommendations regarding planting priorities and future policy.	M	3,4,5		X	X		Locate areas of the township that have low canopy cover or where canopy cover is decreasing.
6	Outreach and Education. Continue building the outreach and education program to inform residents on the benefits of trees, proper maintenance techniques, BMPS and the rules and regulations pertinent to trees in Ferguson Township.	H	1,4			X		Use a diverse approach including newsletters, township website, HOA presentations, social media and possible podcasts
7	Regional Cooperation. Participate in regional discussions and interact with neighboring tree commissions to discuss common goals and potential threats to the urban forest.	L	4,5,9			As Needed		Take part in regional discussions. Plan for a future regional tree commission meeting