



---

# TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

3147 Research Drive • State College, Pennsylvania 16801  
Telephone: 814-238-4651 • Fax: 814-238-3454  
[www.twp.ferguson.pa.us](http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us)

---

## Tree Commission Hybrid Meeting Agenda

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84324261360>

August 15, 2022

5:15 pm

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. CITIZEN'S INPUT**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. June 21, 2022
2. July 15, 2022

**IV. SPECIAL REPORTS**

None.

**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**1. EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

**10 minutes**

**Narrative**

1. Provide FTTC draft of education article for review.
2. Public awareness campaign for Trees of Heaven and the need for removal. Ferguson Township Pine Grove Mills Small Area Plan asked the Tree Commission to review this.

*Recommended motion: That the Tree Commission approve the monthly article topics and provide a recommendation on the requested removal of Trees of Heaven.*

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. CONSENT AGENDA**

None.

**2. SLIMAK HERITAGE TREE NOMINATION**

**15 minutes**

Darryl and Susan Slimak are nominating a 168 year old sliver maple that is located on their private property in Pennsylvania Furnace. Please see the attached application, memo, and photos for more information.

*Recommended action: That the Tree Commission provide their recommendation to the Public Works Director on the request for the Heritage Tree designation.*

**VII. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**15 minutes**

1. Arborist Report
2. Public Works Director Report

**VIII. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

**IX. CALENDAR ITEMS**

- a. Next FTTC meeting September 19th at 5:15pm

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**I. ATTENDANCE**

The Tree Commission held its regular meeting via hybrid format on Monday, June 21, 2022. In attendance were:

**COMMISSION:**

Scott Pflumm  
Marc McDill-Absent  
Allyson Muth-Absent  
Josh Potter  
Mike Jacobson

**STAFF:**

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

Others in Attendance: Lee Grecni, Ferguson Township Resident.

**II. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Scott Pflumm called the Monday, June 21, 2022 Ferguson Township Tree Commission (FTTC) meeting to order at 5:19 pm.

**III. CITIZEN'S INPUT**

None.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mr. Pflumm made a motion to approve the May 16, 2022 meeting minutes. Dr. Jacobson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**V. SPECIAL REPORTS**

None.

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**1. EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

Mr. Pflumm stated that the Education and Outreach Committee is proposing that all new street trees that are planted by the Township have a QR code attached to them that will direct a user to a page with more detailed information. The Commission discussed this idea in depth.

**Mr. Pflumm called for a motion that to recommend the QR codes be placed on all newly planted Township street trees, Mr. Joshua Potter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. CONSENT AGENDA- move agenda to next agenda**

The Commission asked that all plans that are to be reviewed be added to the agenda. Dr. Jacobson also noted that he has not received any plans and that Dr. McDill normally forwards him the plans.

## **2. SPONGY “GYPSY” MOTH**

Mr. Modricker asked that this topic be on the agenda as he has seen a lot of damage. The Commission discussed this topic in depth.

## **3. 311 McCLARY COURT WEST – TREE REMOVAL**

Mr. Modricker stated that Mr. Lee Greci is present to discuss a possible removal of a red maple tree on his property. Mr. Greci stated that he spoke with Mr. Larry Maginnis the Township arborist. They discussed volcano mulching and how harmful it is to trees. Mr. Greci noted that he was unaware of this, and this is done to most of the trees on McClary Court. The volcano mulching has caused the roots to uplift, and they have taken of his yard and house. Mr. Greci stated that he is ready to remove and replace the tree at his cost. Mr. Greci stated that the replacement will be approved by the Arborist. Mr. Greci provided photos of the tree and roots. Mr. Greci stated that the roots make it hard for him to mow grass, is a walking hazard, and is headed toward his house. Mr. Modricker explained that Mr. Maginnis did a site view and consulted Mr. Modricker. Mr. Modricker suggested he bring the removal to the Tree Commission for consideration. Mr. Modricker suggested that the Commission view this tree as a part of the July tree tour and then decide. All parties were in favor of doing a site view during the July tree tour. **Mr. Pflumm called for a motion to add this tree and neighboring trees to the July tree tour, Dr. Jacobson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## **VIII. STAFF & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **1. ARBORIST**

**None.**

### **2. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Mr. Modricker provided a short update on the trail at Songbird Sanctuary. Mr. Modricker also reviewed the transportation and dinner options for the July tree tour. It was decided the Commission would use a commuter van and box lunches would be provided.

## **IX. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE TREE COMMISSION**

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

The June 21, 2022 Tree Commission meeting ended at 6:15 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

---

David J. Modricker, Secretary  
For the Tree Commission

**FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, July 18, 2022  
5:15 PM**

**I. ATTENDANCE**

The Tree Commission held its annual tree tour on Monday, July 18, 2022. In attendance were:

**COMMISSION:**

Scott Pflumm-Absent  
Marc McDill  
Allyson Muth-Absent  
Josh Potter  
Mike Jacobson

**STAFF:**

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

Others in Attendance: None.

**II. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Marc McDill called the Monday, July 18, 2022 Ferguson Township Tree Commission (FTTC) meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

**III. CITIZEN'S INPUT**

None.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**The Commission will review minutes at the regularly scheduled August meeting.**

**V. SPECIAL REPORTS**

None.

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Consent Agenda**

- None.
- 

**2. TREE REMOVALS & NEW PLANTING OPPORTUNITIES**

The Tree Commission commenced the 2022 Tree Tour by visiting the following locations: 311 McClary Court, Louis Silvi Baseball Field, 6894 Whitehall Road.

The Commission visited 311 McClary Court. Mr. Larry Maginnis stated that volcano mulching is a very big problem within the Township and could be a

reason the tree roots on this street are growing out of the ground. Mr. Lee Greci, property owner of 311 McClary Court came outside and reiterated the problems this tree is causing and that he is still willing to remove, stump grind, and replace at his cost. **Dr. McDill stated that the tree is not thriving. Dr. McDill made a motion to replace the tree subject to the owner covering the cost of removal/replacement, Mr. Joshua Potter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.**

The Commission visited the Louis Silvi baseball complex where Mr. Maginnis noted several oak and pine trees in poor condition with hazardous dead wood. Mr. Maginnis proposed the removal of the dead wood. The Commission discussed the possibility of roping off the area around the trees for added safety. The Commission also discussed the removal of some pine trees by the pavilion area.

The Commission visited 6894 Whitehall Road where Mr. Maginnis stated that the tree is notably dead. Mr. Maginnis is proposing the dead tree be removed, stump grinded, and replaced. The Commission discussed this tree.

#### **VIII. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE TREE COMMISSION**

None.

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The July 18, 2022 Tree Commission meeting ended at 7:30 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

---

David J. Modricker, Secretary  
For the Tree Commission



# HERITAGE/SIGNIFICANT TREE NOMINATION FORM

Ferguson Township, Centre County

DATE: <u>7-19-2022</u>		NEIGHBORHOOD: <u>FAIRBROOK</u>	
PERSON NOMINATING THE TREE: <u>DARRYL SLIMAK</u>		PROPERTY OWNER: <u>DARRYL + SUSAN SLIMAK</u>	
ADDRESS: <u>821 Teaberry Lane State College, PA 16803</u>		ADDRESS: <u>211 Greenlee Lane Pennsylvania Furnace, PA 16865</u>	
PHONE: <u>814-880-4163</u>		PHONE: <u>814-880-4163</u>	
SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR: <u>D &amp; R Slimak</u>		SIGNATURE OF PROPERTY OWNER: <u>D &amp; R Slimak</u>	
DATE: <u>D &amp; R Slimak</u>		DATE <u>7-19-2022</u>	
DESIRED DESIGNATION: HERITAGE: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		SIGNIFICANT: <input type="checkbox"/>	
LOCATION:			
IS THE TREE LOCATED ON PRIVATE OR PUBLIC PROPERTY?: <u>Private</u>			
SINGLE TREE:		MORE THAN ONE (give number): <u>2</u>	
SPECIES: <u>Silver maple</u>			
HISTORICAL FACTS: <u>see attached.</u>			
TRUNK DIAMETER (in inches) AT 54 INCHES ABOVE GROUND LEVEL (DBH): <u>176</u> <u>137</u>			
APPROXIMATE AGE (years) <u>168</u> <u>131</u>		CONDITION <u>Generally healthy / very good</u>	
NOTE WORTHY** FEATURES:	BEAUTY: <u>very nice multi-trunk form - large</u>	SHADE: <u>wonderful overarching shade canopy</u>	SIZE      HISTORY
PLEASE INCLUDE A PHOTO AND NARRATIVE EXPLAINING WHY YOU FEEL THE CRITERIA FOR HERITAGE TREES HAS BEEN MET. <u>see attached</u>			

\*\* Very impressive trees, large trunks, unusual trees to be so large and healthy for this species, beautiful form with multiple trunks/limbs branching out from the large trunk bottom.

### INTERNAL USE ONLY

DATE RECEIVED BY TOWNSHIP: _____		
ARBORIST INSPECTION DATE:	FTTC APPROVAL:	BOS APPROVAL:

RETURN NOMINATION FORM BY EMAIL TO: [dmodricker@twp.ferguson.pa.us](mailto:dmodricker@twp.ferguson.pa.us)

These impressively large and shapely, old but still quite healthy “sister” Silver Maple trees are situated on the farm property originally owned by Captain George Meek of the 1<sup>st</sup> Continental Army, when a 305 acre tract was acquired by Meek in Ferguson Township in 1790. The largest of the 2 trees is the most beautiful and harkens back to a time frame prior to The Civil War, circa 1854+/- . The sister tree located nearby is circa 1891, still within the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is reportedly exceptional for Silver Maples to exceed 130 years, and these sisters are approximately 168 and 131 years old as of 2022. Both trees sprouted while the property remained owned by heirs of the Meek family, and are in the Meek settlement of Fairbrook, very near the intersection of Tadpole and Whitehall Roads, and the historic Meeks’ Cemetery and Church.

Focusing on the largest and oldest tree, it has an impressively large, 176” circumference trunk measured at 54” from the ground, which at about that point divides into a beautiful and shapely multi-trunk, vase-shaped configuration typical for this species. It has a high, overarching canopy which provides shade to the area below, which remains green year round, and provides habitat for the many birds, squirrels, rabbits, toads and other critters which frequent the semi-riparian area which these trees flourish in.

The trees were likely within the pasture of the nearby Meek barn and home, and from their early days provided shade to livestock, the availability of maple syrup and other uses, and to the current time, shade and space for picnicking and a child’s swing and play area.

The current owners, Darryl and Susan Slimak, are open to welcoming, with advance notice, forestry and other students and interested members of the public to view and study these wonderful trees.





