

## **FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting  
Monday, April 17, 2017  
5:30 pm

### **I. ATTENDANCE**

The Tree Commission held its regular meeting on Monday, April 17, 2017 at the Ferguson Township Municipal Building. In attendance were:

<b>Commission:</b> Mark McDill, Chairman	<b>Staff:</b> Lance King, Arborist
Howard Fescemyer, Vice Chairman	David Modricker, Director of Public Works
Mike Jacobson	
Jerry Learn	

Others in attendance: Carl Troutman

### **II. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Fescemyer called the Monday, April 17, 2017 Ferguson Township Tree Commission meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

### **III. APROVAL OF MARCH 20 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Jacobson made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 20, 2017 meeting. Mr. Learn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **IV. RESIDENT REQUESTED TREE REMOVALS**

Mr. King introduced Mr. Carl Troutman to the Ferguson Township Tree Committee (FTTC). Mr. Troutman has requested that a pin oak that is on the property next to his property on Oxford Circle be removed. The Township did not plant the tree but the tree is in the Township right of way. Mr. Troutman expressed a concern that the pin oak is hindering the growth and welfare of a blue spruce that is located on his property. The FTTC members question the actual affect that the pin oak is having on the blue spruce. Mr. Troutman says he has obtained his neighbors permission verbally that he could remove the tree. Mr. Modricker reviewed the process for obtaining a permit to have a tree removed in accordance with the current Township tree ordinance. Mr. Modricker also stated that typically the FTTC is interested in preserving trees in the Township right of way. Mr. King said that the FTTC would discuss the matter and he would get back in touch with Mr. Troutman with their decision. The FTTC feels that the request to remove the oak tree does not meet the criteria to obtain a permit for removal. Mr. Nate Miller is another resident that would like to have a permit to remove four red maples on a property he is in the process of purchasing. Mr. Miller could not attend tonight's meeting and will attend a meeting in the future to discuss the removal of the maples. Based on information presented by the arborist, the FTTC was not in favor of removing the maple trees.

### **V. LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mr. King asked for a member of the FTTC to volunteer to review land development plans to replace former member Troy Bayletts. Mr. Learn volunteered to review the land development plans. Mr. McDill offered to assist Mr. Learn.

## **VI. 2017 CONTRACT UPDATES**

Mr. King told the FTTC that Mr. Behrer placed PA one calls to mark tree planting locations and he will start planting trees in the next two weeks. Oak wilt treatment will start at the end of April or beginning of May. The contractor is waiting for leaf out to start treatment.

## **VII. ARBOR DAY 2017**

Mr. King updated the FTTC that everything is on track for the Arbor Day Celebration. Mr. Steve Miller will be there to give the proclamation and a DCNR representative will present the Tree City USA award at the event. Suggestions for having water, fruit and granola bars available for the volunteers were made by the FTTC members.

## **VIII. OUTREACH AND EDUCATION**

Mr. King asked for ideas from the FTTC for short stories for the next few upcoming e-newsletters. Tree City USA was the first topic that was suggested for the first short story in May. Mr. Fescemyer said he would think on ideas and let Mr. King know.

## **IX. FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE PLAN**

Mr. King gave the FTTC the finalized copy of the tree plan. Each member of the FTTC approved the plan and signed the copy of the plan. The finalized plan has been adopted and will be available on the website.

## **X. ARBORIST REPORT**

Mr. King performed a few PA One calls for the trees being planted at the Township building and the planting of the buffer area on Township property accessed from Owens Drive behind the Waffle Shop. The planting will occur the following week by the Township's public works crew. Mr. Learn asked if the FTTC was still interested in a walk-through of the Township property accessible from Owens Drive located behind the Waffle Shop. Mr. McDill suggested that the FTTC recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the area behind the Waffle Shop along Blue Course Drive be turned into a park.

Mr. King will start mowing the Township's right of ways and other Township property. The FTTC asked if Mr. King would be mowing, or overseeing the mowing crew. Mr. King stated he will be doing both. The FTTC stated that this does not seem like a good use of his time.

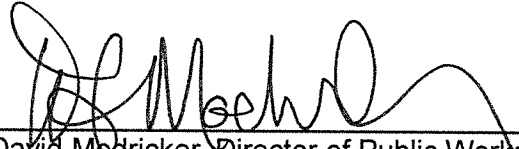
Mr. King has been asked by the president of the Penndel Chapter to serve as the certification liaison to the ISA. Mr. Scott Sjolander is slowly leaving that position and all classes that go through Penndel that have continuing education credits for ISA will have to be approved by Mr. King.

Mr. Fescemyer asked if there was still an interest in getting together with Harris Township to discuss tree matters. Mr. McDill will check his schedule and get back to the FTTC on a date for a meeting.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the April 17, 2017 Tree Commission regular meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Medricker', written over a horizontal line.

David Medricker, Director of Public Works  
For the Tree Commission