FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Monday, February 13, 2017 5:30 pm

I. ATTENDANCE

The Tree Commission held its regular meeting on Monday, February 13, 2017 at the Ferguson Township Municipal Building. In attendance were:

David Modricker, Director of Public Works

Commission: Howard Fescemyer, Vice Chairman Staff: Lance King, Arborist

Mike Jacobson Darlene Chivers Jerry Learn

Others in attendance included: Robert Hibbert and Diana Griffith.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Fescemyer called the Monday, February 13, 2017 Ferguson Township Tree Commission meeting to order at 5:53 pm.

III. APROVAL OF JANUARY 16 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Jacobson made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2017 meeting. Ms. Chivers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. CENTENNIAL OAK

Mr. King inspected the centennial oak on Farmstead Lane and assessed the condition of the tree. He shared with the Ferguson Township Tree Commission (FTTC) photos of the tree and the results of the resistograph testing. He said that he feels the tree is in decline but the tree currently does not need to be removed. The FTTC said that since the tree is on private property that it is up to the homeowner, Mr. Hibbert, to maintain the tree.

V. OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

The FTTC invited Diana Griffith, Community Communications Coordinator, to discuss what outlets can be used to reach the property owners in Ferguson Township about tree concerns. The FTTC wants to see information regarding oak wilt sent to the property owners in the Park Forest area. A draft letter has been prepared to be mailed to Park Forest area residents. The FTTC gave Ms. Griffith ideas for future website articles and other media sources.

VI. ARBOR DAY 2017

Mr. King met with Doug and Pam Ford and Justin Wheeler from the Penn State Master Gardeners for an event at the Snetsinger Butterfly Gardens at Tudek Park for Arbor Day. The event will be held on Saturday April 29th 2017 in the hopes that more of the public will attend. The event will educate the public on plant types for pollinators, invasive plants and provide an opportunity for

residents to help clean up the area for more plantings. Ms. Chivers gave a suggestion to help advertise Arbor Day.

VII. FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE PLAN

No Action.

VIII. ARBORIST REPORT

Mr. King said that the 2017 tree planting contract has been advertised and bids will be accepted until February 28, 2017. The 2017-C14 stump grinding contact was awarded to Cutting Edge Tree Professionals. That work should be completed by the end of February. The 2017-C16 oak wilt treatment contract will be advertised Friday February 17th. Mr. King showed the FTTC aerial views of the property recently acquired by the Township and formerly owned by Stephen White, located behind the Waffle Shop off of Blue Course and West College Avenue. He showed where the Township is going to plant white pines. Mr. King also ordered 15 trees to plant on the property of the municipal building complex at 3147 Research Drive to replace missing side yard and rear yard buffer trees. Mr. King will be attending the PennDel ISA conference on March 7th and 8th in Manheim.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMISSION MEMBERS

Ms. Chivers said that the street trees along North Cherry Hill Road are in bad shape. Mr. Modricker said that those trees were not purposefully planted street trees nor planted by the Township. The Township inherited those trees due to the location of the trees in the right of way.

X. ADJORNMENT

With no further business, the February 13, 2017 Tree Commission regular meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

David Modricker, Director of Public Works

For the Tree Commission