

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Monday, March 16, 2015
5:30 pm

I. ATTENDANCE

The Tree Commission held its regular meeting on Monday, March 16, 2015 at the Ferguson Township Municipal Building. In attendance were:

Commission: Marc McDill, Chairman
Troy Bayletts
Darlene Weener

Staff: David Modricker, Director of Public Works

Others in attendance included: Heather Bird, Recording Secretary; Alan Sam, State College Borough, James Savage, Penn State Landscaping

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. McDill called the Monday March 16, 2015 Ferguson Township Tree Commission meeting to order at 5:43 pm.

III. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 19, 2015 AND FEBRUARY 17, 2015 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Bayletts made a motion to APPROVE the January 19, 2015 meeting minutes with the following changes:

- page 2, paragraph 8 - London Pine should be changed to London Plain
- Page 4, paragraph 1 – Mr. McDill made motion and Mr. Bayletts seconded, motion passed unanimously with Ms. Weener abstaining.
- Page 1, paragraph 7 – changed wording to read: Mr. Modricker responded that a total of 65 trees will be included in the bid. Because 65 trees is less than anticipated there is money left in the budget presenting an option to have a second planting in the fall.

Ms. Weener seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McDill made a motion to APPROVE the February 17, 2015 meeting minutes. Mr. Bayletts seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Ms. Weener abstaining.

IV. REQUEST FROM JAMES SAVAGE TO ALLOW PSU STUDENTS TO TRIM TOWNSHIP TREES

Mr. Savage teaches a basic arboriculture class at Penn State which teaches students how to prune and take care of trees. He would like to allow the students to prune trees within the Township. He suggested having the arborist come along with the class during the trimming process to assist with supervising. Last year they completed some pruning along Blue Course Drive.

The Commission discussed some potential options for in the future.

Mr. Modricker suggested pruning in Greenleaf Manor where the ash trees will be removed but the Township has not yet reached the point of replacement and/or removal. The Commission agreed this would be a good to learn on trees that may be lost already.

Mr. McDill stated the decision of the Commission is to have Township staff work with Mr. Savage for pruning opportunities with the Township.

V. REVIEW OF PLANTING PLANS IN VARIOUS PARKS

Mr. Modricker presented the planting plans for the parks within the Township:

Tudek Dog Park - The Commission approved this plan as presented. Ms. Weener asked how the trees will be protected. Mr. Modricker responded that they may place fences around them and all will be mulched and have gator bags.

Tudek Parking Lot - Mr. McDill stated concern for the sugar maples proposed on the plan. He suggested an autumn blaze in place of the sugar maple. After discussion on this from the Commission members the final decision for the planting plan is as follows:

- 4 of each type of hybrid maple
- 3 red maples
- 5 tulip poplar
- 5 cucumber magnolia

Homestead Park - The Commission approved this plan as presented.

Autumnwood Park - The Commission approved this plan as presented.

Mr. McDill made a motion APPROVE the park planting plan as indicated above. Mr. Bayletts seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. THE COTTAGES PLANNED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Modricker presented the proposed plantings for The Cottages Planned Residential Development. The Commission discussed the monoculture of trees planned for the development. Mr. Modricker stated the Commission would need to make any suggestions within two weeks. The Commission will let Mr. Modricker know any suggested changes.

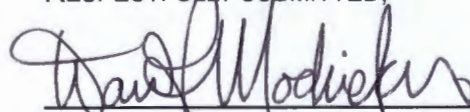
VII. PRESENTATION BY AL SAM, STATE COLLEGE BOROUGH ARBORIST

Mr. Sam stated he is excited that Ferguson has joined with the State College Borough, Harris Township and Penn State and created a Tree Commission. He would like to organize a group meeting once or twice a year. He would like to see the Commissions from each municipality work together on the health of the community trees; such as disease, climate change and vandalism.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the March 16, 2015 regular Tree Commission meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



David Modricker, Director of Public Works
For the Tree Commission
Dated 04/20/2015