

**FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, September 21, 2020
5:00 PM**

I. ATTENDANCE

The Tree Commission held its public meeting on Monday, September 21, 2020 via ZOOM. In attendance were:

COMMISSION:

Scott Pflum Chair
Marc McDill – Vice Chair
Allyson Muth
Josh Potter
Mike Jacobson

STAFF:

Lance King, Arborist
David Modricker, Public Works Director
Summer Brown, Recording Secretary

Others in Attendance: Wes Glebe & Christine Bailey, Ferguson Township Residents; Mr. Porter, ; Randy Hudson, Nittany Valley Environmental Coalition Representative.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Scott Pflumm called the Monday, September 21, 2020 Ferguson Township Tree Commission (FTTC) meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

III. AUGUST 17TH MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Pflumm called for a motion to approve the August 17th meeting minutes. Mr. Potter noted that “Dr. Potter” needed to be changed to “Mr. Potter” Mrs. Summer Brown noted the correction. Dr. Mike Jacobson seconded the motion and the motion passed 4 to 1 with Dr. Marc McDill abstaining from the vote since he did not review the minutes.

IV. AUGUST 31ST MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Pflumm called for a motion to approve the August 31st, 2020 meeting minutes. Dr. Marc McDill made a motion to approve, Mr. Joshua Potter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. CITIZEN’S INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Wes Glebe stated a concern he about the ordinance. He would like to see something added about quality of soil and trees that are planted in the Township.

Mr. Randy Hudson, a representative from Nittany Valley Environmental Coalition stated that he wrote the Commission a letter and was told he would receive a comment letter back and has not received that yet. Mr. David Modricker stated that he did draft a comment letter and sent it to the Commission Chair for review. Mr. Scott Pflumm stated that he will review the letter before it’s sent to Mr. Hudson.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dr. Allyson Muth stated to Commission members that a couple of trees at the Ag Progress Days location tested positive for oak wilt.

VII. TREE PRESERVATION ORDINANCE REVIEW

Mr. Pflumm opened the ordinance review discussion by reviewing the definitions section. The Commission provided comments. Mr. Lance King stated that no definition or language changes have been made yet, as he would like to wait until all comments on the ordinance have been finalized. Dr. Marc McDill suggested that if a term is not used in the ordinance it should just be taken out of the definitions section. The Commission agreed. The Commission continued its discussion on the heritage tree program and its language. Dr. McDill stated that he feels that the program is different from the preservation ordinance. Mr. King explained the intent of the program and explained that the program is its own resolution.

Regarding the tree preservation protection and replacement plan, Dr. McDill stated that doing a 100% survey of all trees over 5 inches in diameter is a lot to ask and suggested an alternative of just mapping the canopy. This would be a less expensive option. Dr. McDill stated that the mapping plan would have to be approved by Township so they can't just preserve the smallest, least desirable trees. The Commission discussed this suggestion further.

VIII. HERITAGE & SIGNIFICANT TREE ORDINANCE REVIEW – no discussion

IX. OFFICIAL TOWNSHIP PLANT LIST REVIEW – no discussion

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

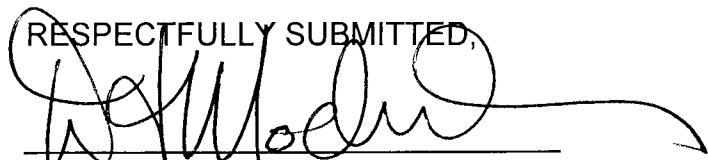
Mr. Pflumm asked if the Commission wanted to meet every 2 weeks. The Commission members reviewed schedules and decided to meet from 10:30am-12:30pm on October 1st.

XI. OTHER

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The September 21, 2020 Tree Commission meeting ended at 6:45 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

David J. Modricker, Director of Public Works
For the Tree Commission