

**FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 22, 2021
5:00 PM**

I. ATTENDANCE

The Tree Commission held its public meeting on Monday, February 22, 2021 via ZOOM. In attendance were:

COMMISSION:	STAFF:
Scott Pflumm	Lance King, Arborist
Marc McDill	David Modricker, Public Works Director
Allyson Muth	Summer Brown, Recording Secretary
Josh Potter	
Mike Jacobson	

Others in Attendance:

II. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Marc McDill called the Monday, February 22, 2021 Ferguson Township Tree Commission (FTTC) meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

III. JANUARY 25th MEETING MINUTES

Dr. Allyson Muth made a motion to approve the January 25, 2021 meeting minutes, Mr. Joshua Potter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. CITIZEN'S INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

V. COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dr. Muth stated that she reached out to Mr. King about an influx of gypsy moth egg masses she has seen in Pine Grove Mills. Discussion followed.

VI. URBAN FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE UPDATE

Mr. King presented a power point of urban forest insect and diseases to the Commission. Mr. King went over and gave updates on the following topics: Spotted Lanternfly, Emerald Ash Borer, Bagworm, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, Cicadas, Oak Wilt, Bacterial Leaf Scorch, Rhizosphaera Needle Cast, and Two lined Chestnut Borer. Mr. King noted the Township has treatment programs in place for emerald ash borer and oak wilt only at this time. He reviewed observations of any diseased trees and any confirmed cases in the Township.

VII. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Mr. Josh Potter stated that Shaver's Creek Environmental Center utilizes a work study program. Mr. King and Mr. Modricker have connected Township Assistant Manager Centrice Martin to Carla Gilson who works for Penn State University

and oversees the work study program. Mr. Potter stated that the Township can become a site partner. The Commission discussed the work study program and having a student work on the Commission's outreach and education. Mr. Modricker stated that newsletter and website stories are in staff's wheelhouse, and that other initiatives such as producing a video or podcast will require more input and effort. Mr. King also noted that he has had success developing and posting fact sheets for different topics. Dr. Muth suggesting bringing Township Communications Coordinator Nick Fugaro on board to see if he has any expertise he would like to volunteer. Dr. McDill suggested making a video to cover topics such as "What are street trees?", "What does the Commission do?", "What does the arborist do?", and other simple things. The Commission discussed and decided to storyboard ideas at the next meeting.

VIII. ARBORIST REPORT

Mr. King updated the Commission on the grant for the bare root trees that will be planted this spring. The trees will be planted in the stormwater basin at Haymarket Park. If awarded, the grant will give the Township twenty additional trees that will be planted in the basin. Mr. King received interest from residents requesting street trees. He plans on working on growing this list before fall. Mr. King noted that he and Mr. Modricker have worked on putting together a panel of individuals representing various organizations in the Centre Region with the common goal of "greening the environment" to allow the group to collaborates requested by the Commission at the last meeting. The panel will attend the May 17th regular meeting of the FTTC. The following people will be in attendance: Pam Adams, Centre Region Sustainability Planner; Dr. Peter Buck, Academic Programs Manager for PSU Sustainability Institute; Brandi Robinson, member of the Ferguson Township Climate Action Committee; Ray Stolinis, Centre County Planning Director; and Ilona Ballreich, Program Manager for PSU Sustainability Institute. Mr. King suggested the Commission schedule the agenda accordingly.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Commission discussed future agenda items and decided the April meeting will focus on tree canopy items. The March meeting will be used to discuss outreach and education. The Commission would like Centrice Martin and Nick Fugaro to attend this meeting to get their input on the work study program and ideas for public outreach.

X. OTHER

The Commission decided that Dr. Michael Jacobson and Dr. McDill will serve as the Commission's land development plan review subcommittee.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The February 22, 2021 Tree Commission meeting ended at 7:00 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



David J. Modricker, Secretary
For the Tree Commission