

**FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 18, 2021
5:00 PM**

I. ATTENDANCE

The Tree Commission held its regular meeting via ZOOM on Monday, October 18, 2021. In attendance were:

COMMISSION:

Scott Pflumm-absent
Marc McDill
Allyson Muth-absent
Josh Potter
Mike Jacobson

STAFF:

David Modricker, Public Works Director
Summer Brown, Recording Secretary

Others in Attendance: Dorothy Blair, President of Nittany Valley Environmental Coalition; Anne Rose, Ferguson Township Resident; Steven Constable, Ferguson Township Resident.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Marc McDill called the Monday, October 18, 2021 Ferguson Township Tree Commission (FTTC) meeting to order at 5:06 pm.

III. SEPTEMBER 20TH MEETING MINUTES

Dr. Marc McDill called for a motion to approve the September 20th meeting minutes. Dr. Michael Jacobson seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

IV. CITIZEN'S INPUT

Dorothy Blair, President of Nittany Valley Environmental Coalition was present to discuss the Township's Arborist position. NVEC would like to assist in recruiting the right candidate for the position. Ms. Blair asked the Township to consider more than the minimum qualifications for the next Arborist. Mr. Modricker stated that an offer was made to a very qualified applicant and was accepted but later declined. Mr. Modricker stated that the Township is currently interviewing other candidates and any further inquiries on the matter should be directed to the Township Human Resources Administrator.

V. SPECIAL REPORTS

None.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. CONSENT AGENDA

• CENTRE ANIMAL HOSPITAL / TUSSEY TRACKS

Mr. Modricker stated that the Animal Hospital is located on West

College Ave. The developer will be expanding into the next lot. Mr. Modricker stated that this plan is located in the Terraced Streetscape District (TSD) which has particular rules. Mr. Modricker noted that he did provide comments to this plan including: TSD requires particular plant beds, and tree beds which the plan did not show. No street trees were shown and nothing indicated which trees would be preserved or replaced. Mr. Modricker requested that they use the official plant list for planting and that trees be planted in the islands.

Dr. McDill stated that he also reviewed the plan and tried to find the official plant list on the website and was unable to locate it. Dr. McDill would like the official plant list to be more readily available.

2. PUBLIC HEARING FOR TREE REMOVALS

The Commission reviewed the tree removal list. Ms. Rose of 1702 Princeton Drive, noted the tree to be removed in front of her house was not flagged as stated in the notice, however she did contact David Modricker, and the tree was flagged that same day. **Dr. McDill moved to approve the list of tree removals and plantings. Mr. Josh Potter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.**

3. FARMSTEAD VIEW LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mr. McDill stated that he was contacted by a concerned resident of a large confer tree located in the center of the proposed Farmstead View land development. Mr. Modricker stated that this falls under the tree preservation ordinance. Dr. McDill noted that the tree does not interfere with any lots; the developer would just need to change some grading. **Dr. McDill moved that the FTTC recommend the developer create a tree preservation plan to save this tree. Dr. Michael Jacobson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.**

VIII. OUTREACH & EDUCATION

IX. STAFF & COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORTS

Mr. Modricker stated that he is fielding all tree related calls. Staff is currently working on a tree protection plan on the park hills drainage way project. The Township will be continuing to interview Arborist candidates.

X. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE TREE COMMISSION

1. HAZARDOUS TREE WEST GATESBURG ROAD

Mr. Modricker stated that a hazardous tree was identified on West Gatesburg; that the property owner was notified, and the tree was subsequently taken down. A copy of the letter and photos were included in the agenda for the

Commission's review.

XI. CALENDAR ITEMS

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The October 18, 2021 Tree Commission meeting ended at 7:00 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Modricker", written over a horizontal line.

David J. Modricker, Secretary
For the Tree Commission