

**FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, April 18, 2022  
5:15 PM**

**I. ATTENDANCE**

The Tree Commission held its regular meeting via hybrid format on Monday, March 21, 2022. In attendance were:

**COMMISSION:**

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

**STAFF:**

David Modricker, Public Works Director  
Summer Brown, Recording Secretary  
Larry Maginnis, Township Arborist

Others in Attendance: Bill Keough, Ferguson Township Resident.

**II. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Josh Potter called the Monday, April 18, 2022 Ferguson Township Tree Commission (FTTC) meeting to order at 5:23 pm.

**III. CITIZEN'S INPUT**

None.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mr. Potter made a motion to approve the March 21, 2022 meeting minutes with one correction. Section IV, number one, the newsletter topic should read "Black Knot Fungus". Mrs. Allyson Muth seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**V. SPECIAL REPORTS**

None.

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**1. EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

Mrs. Muth stated that Mr. Scott Pflumm engaged Dr. Megan Hoskins from the Penn State Sustainability Institute regarding a partnership with Penn State students on education and outreach events related to sustainability. Mr. Pflumm recommended that if any students were interested that they could follow up with the FTTC. Mrs. Muth stated that a plan has been made for the news topics through July. Mr. Maginnis noted that he changed the article for April. Mr. Maginnis stated that brush collection has commenced this month and he noticed that in preparation for this collection some residents were performing improper pruning of street trees and at times putting themselves in dangerous positions while pruning the trees. Mr. Maginnis stated that the April article discussed proper pruning techniques. Mr. Maginnis stated that staff also

received HOA contact information to get the article distributed to all.

## **2. PARK HILLS TREE PLANTING PLAN**

Mr. Modricker forwarded the Commission's concerns regarding species diversity to the consultant and out of the three proposed plantings they were in support of two. The consultant also provided clarification on the number of plantings. The Township is also asking for a 2-year warranty. Mr. Modricker stated that the project is still in design and recently the Township received the easement agreements.

## **3. ARBOR DAY**

Mr. Maginnis stated that he is currently finalizing design plans for the pop up arboretum and tree tour. Mr. Maginnis also noted that the event was moved to 4:00 pm due to a conflicting event scheduled in the same area of Tudek Park.

## **4. FARMSTEAD VIEW – MODIFICATION WAIVER UPDATE**

Mr. Modricker stated he attended the Planning Commission meeting. Mr. Modricker stated that the Commission extensively discussed the red pine and the tree preservation plan modification request. Mr. Modricker stated the developer is proposing to save 1 black walnut along the street frontage and this amounts to 17% of the canopy and will plant trees to make up the other 3%. In the end the Planning Commission voted 5-2 in favor of the developer to approve the modification request. The Board of Supervisors will take action on this request at their meeting on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>.

# **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

## **1. CONSENT AGENDA**

- **FARMSTEAD VIEW 4<sup>TH</sup> SUBMISSION**

Mr. Maginnis stated that the modification waiver was passed by the Planning Commission and will be sent to the Board Of Supervisors. Mr. Maginnis' comments for the fourth submission were related to the tree preservation.

## **2. FERGUSON TOWNSHIP TREE PLAN 2017-2022**

Mr. Maginnis stated that he has quickly reviewed the Tree Plan and there are numerous changes he would like to make including but not limited to tree species, chemical application, and renderings.

Mr. Modricker suggested the Commission could provide comments to Mr. Maginnis who can update the tree plan this fall for an anticipated approval early in 2023. Mr. Modricker stated that tonight's agenda was just an introduction and Mr. Maginnis will review the plan and start revisions over the course of this year. Mr. Potter suggested the Commission review and compile thoughts in the fall.

## **3. BAILEYVILLE COMMUNITY HALL – HERITAGE TREE DEDICATION**

Mr. Keough was present on behalf of the Baileyville Community Hall. Mr. Keough stated that the community hall is holding its annual picnic and would like to have the heritage tree dedicated with a permanent marker at this picnic. Mr. Keough stated that the picnic will take place July 17<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-7:00 pm.

Mr. Maginnis noted that in the agenda is a link to the City of Portland's webpage on their Heritage Tree Program highlighting how he previously attached a plaque to a tree. Mr. Maginnis explained the plaque and stated that he and staff have discussed this technique and are in favor.

**VIII. STAFF & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. ARBORIST**

Mr. Maginnis stated that the Township has kicked off the bare root tree planting. Mr. Maginnis stated that new trees have been planted along Circleville Road. The Township will be planting all week.

**2. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORTS**

None.

**IX. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE TREE COMMISSION**

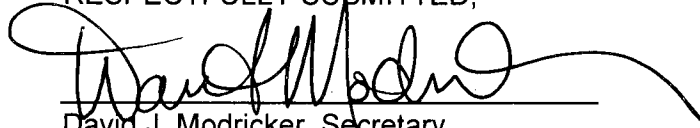
None.

**X. CALENDAR ITEMS**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

The April 18, 2022 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