

# TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND TREE COMMISSION

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Monday, October 26, 2020

A regular meeting of the Town of Sullivan's Island Tree Commission was held on Monday, September 28, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. online via Zoom. All requirements of the Freedom of Information Act have been satisfied. Present were Commission members Mary English, Donovan Glassburn, Milton Langley, Caroline Pennington and Nat Robb.

Members of the public present: Paul Boehm

Staff members present: Joe Henderson, Director of Planning/Zoning Administrator and Jessica Gress, Licensing and Permit Technician.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Robb called the meeting to order and stated that the press and public were duly notified pursuant to State Law and a quorum of Commission Members were present. There were no known members of media present.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Robb made a motion to approve the September 28, 2020 Tree Commission Meeting minutes. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.
- III. **TREE REMOVAL REQUESTS:**

**2907 l'On Avenue:** Madison Rice, requested approval to remove three (3) Category 1 trees: live oak-17", live oak-19", and pine-22" dbh (diameter at breast height). Proposal included mitigation plan and payment to Sullivan's Island Tree Fund in accordance with Zoning Ordinance Section 21-162. B. (Application for relocation, or removal and replacement). (TMS# 529-12-00-047)

Mr. Henderson stated that the applicant requested the removal of the following:

- 19" live oak
- 17" live oak
- 22" pine

The removal of all three trees would be 58" total and outlined the commensurate value of the 58" for both tree species. Mr. Henderson stated that the applicant presented the following proposed mitigation:

- Total of 36" mitigation proposed
- Six- 6" live oaks (for 17: and 19" live oaks)

- 22" pine= \$836 payment to Tree fund

Mr. Henderson stated that Town Staff recommended to approve the proposed removal for meeting several of the By Laws criteria for being in the building footprint of the new home. He further suggested accepting the conditions of mitigating 36" of live oaks and accepting the donation of \$836.00 to the Sullivan's Island Tree Fund for the 22" pine tree. Mr. Henderson informed the Commission Members that there are three trees on the property that have been deemed as hazardous and were previously permitted for removal. These hazard trees were a 12" Pecan, 18" Sycamore, and a 16" Sycamore. Mr. Henderson also stated that there is a 21" live oak that will be pruned and protected throughout the construction project.

Mr. Madison Rice, applicant, informed the Commission that the live oak will be trimmed no less than 10% of its canopy. The trimming of the live oak is to make room for a potential vehicle that will be in the proposed driveway. Mr. Henderson confirmed this pruning would comply with ANSI standards.

Ms. English stated that she is not convinced that the proposed mitigation will be enough canopy to suffice for the removal of these trees. Mr. Robb asked if the proposed new construction was double the size of the existing structure. Mr. Henderson stated that the application is granted complies with the Zoning Ordinance regulations for 30% maximum impervious surface and falls within the allowable building square footage for the floor to area ratio. Mr. Langley stated that he believes most of the canopy that will be removed looks to be from the hazardous trees. Mr. Henderson confirmed Mr. Langley's comment. Ms. English stated that she is not in favor of the application presented due to the lack of canopy.

**Mr. Langley made a motion to approve the application presented with the condition of mitigated 36" of live oaks and making a \$836.00 donation to the Sullivan's Island Tree Fund for the 22" pine tree. Mr. Robb seconded this motion. Motion passed 3 to 1. Ms. English opposed.**

**2923 Middle Street:** George Geils, requested approval to remove six (6) Category 1 trees: pines at 19", 18", 16", 16", 16" dbh (diameter in breast height). Proposal includes mitigation plan in accordance with Zoning Ordinance Section 21-162. B. (Application for relocation, or removal and replacement). (TMS# 529-12-00-005)

Mr. Henderson stated that the applicant requested the removal of the following:

- Category 1 removal of pine trees:
  - 103" pine (\$3,914 mitigation value)
- Category 2 removal: total of 177"
  - 50" red cedar (\$5,750 Mitigation value)
  - 127" pine (\$4,826 mitigation value)

- Proposed mitigation: Total of 50"
  - Ten – 3" red cedar
  - Four – 4" Magnolia

Ms. English stated that she believes the plan submitted is a reasonable amount of mitigation for the red cedars along the east side of the property and larger magnolias. Mr. Langley asked if the applicant would be planting larger trees around the ATT platform and lift station. The applicant stated that they will be planting ten 3" eastern red cedar trees and four 5" magnolia trees which should provide adequate canopy replacement and buffer.

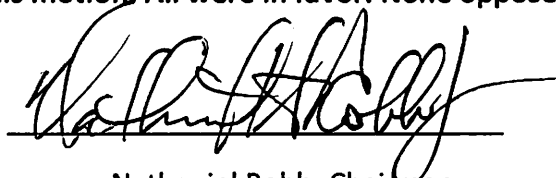
Mr. Henderson clarified for the Commission the applicant's request. Because the property owner would be required so much mitigation to account for the Category 2 trees, totaling 177", they are asking for complete relief from mitigation of the 103" of Category 1 trees. They will still be required to mitigate by planting or paying into the Tree fund for 50" red cedar (\$5,750 Mitigation value) and 127" pine (\$4,826 mitigation value).

Mr. Boehm confirmed the applicant's request as stated by Mr. Henderson.

**Ms. English made a motion to accept the applicant's request by allowing the removal 103" of Category 1 pine trees with full relief from the mitigation requirements, provided however, the full mitigation and/or payment to the Tree Fund is required for all healthy Category 2 trees totaling 177". Mr. Langley seconded this motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.**

**IV. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION: No items for consideration.**

**V. ADJOURN: Mr. Robb made a motion to adjourn at 5:37 p.m. Mr. Langley seconded this motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.**



Nathaniel Robb, Chairman

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Date

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Mary English, Vice-Chairman

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Date