

**TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND
TREE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 20, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Town of Sullivan's Island Tree Commission was held on at 5:00 p.m. online via Zoom. All requirements of the Freedom of Information Act have been satisfied. Present were Commission members Donovan Glassburn, Milton Langley, Mark Miller, and Derek Wade.

Members of the public present: No members of the public were present.

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

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Langley 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. Glassburn made a motion to approve the November 29, 2021, Tree Commission Meeting Minutes. Mr. Miller seconded this motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.
- III. **TREE REMOVAL REQUESTS:**

2525 Atlantic Avenue: Elizabeth Pope, applicant, requested approval to remove one Category 1 pecan tree of 22" in diameter at breast height (DBH) with proposed mitigation plan. Request was in accordance with the Zoning Ordinance, Section 21-162 B (Application for tree relocation, or removal and replacement) (TMS# 529-10-00-072).

Mr. Henderson stated that the applicant was requesting to remove a 22-inch pecan tree due to the overall decline of the tree and it is located within the buildable area. Mr. Henderson stated that the property has gone before the Design Review Board and received final approval to construct a new single-family home. The pecan tree is located between an outbuilding located closer towards the Atlantic side of the property and the new construction. Mr. Henderson stated that after looking at the tree on site, it is a very large and mature tree that has some cavities and shows signs of decline.

Mr. Langley asked if the tree was healthy. Mr. Henderson responded by stating it is healthy however the pecan tree has reached full maturity and has started to show decline. Mr. Henderson stated that the original mitigation plan showed replanting of species that weren't correct. Mr. Henderson stated that if you remove a magnolia, pecan, oak or red cedar you have to replace with in-kind species.



Ms. Pope presented the revised mitigation plan which showed the replacement of 6 eastern red cedars, 6 Palmetto trees, and payment to the tree fund to cover the remaining 6 inches (exhibit 1).

Mr. Henderson clarified that the other trees requested for removal will be reviewed at staff level. Mr. Henderson informed the Commission members that they are only reviewing the removal of the 22-inch pecan tree and the applicant requested to replace with 24 inches in red cedars. Mr. Henderson informed the Commission that this would be a full 100% mitigation and no fee would be owed to the tree fund.

Mr. Wade stated that this pecan tree is not the healthiest looking tree but believed with proper pruning it could potentially last for a couple more years. Mr. Wade asked why the applicant couldn't leave the tree. Ms. Pope responded by stating with the location of the tree it causes issues with the driveway and parking for the owners. Ms. Pope stated that the tree has already started to decline so the property owners do not see a necessary reason to keep this tree.

Mr. Glassburn stated that he is not a big fan of pecan trees and would be in favor of the removal of this tree.

Mr. Langley stated that this is the only tree that seems to have a lot of canopies for this lot. Mr. Langley suggested pruning the tree.

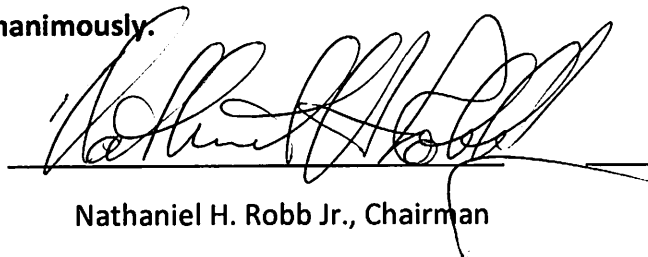
Mr. Miller asked where the new canopy would be located. Ms. Pope responded by stating that they will be planting a total of 40 inches on site and the canopy will be over the walkway and the lawn. Mr. Miller did not oppose the removal of this tree.

Mr. Wade made a motion to approve the removal of the pecan tree provided the applicant mitigated the 24 inches of red cedars submitted on the revised mitigation plan submitted at this meeting. Mr. Glassburn seconded this motion. Mr. Langley opposed. Motion passed 3 to 1.

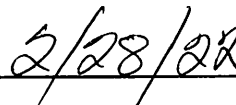
IV. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:

Mr. Henderson stated that he conveyed to Town Council during their regularly scheduled meeting that the Tree Commission has offered financial assistance for Town projects via the Tree Fund. The Council recognized this offer.

V. ADJOURN: Mr. Glassburn made a motion to adjourn at 5:22 p.m. Mr. Wade seconded this motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

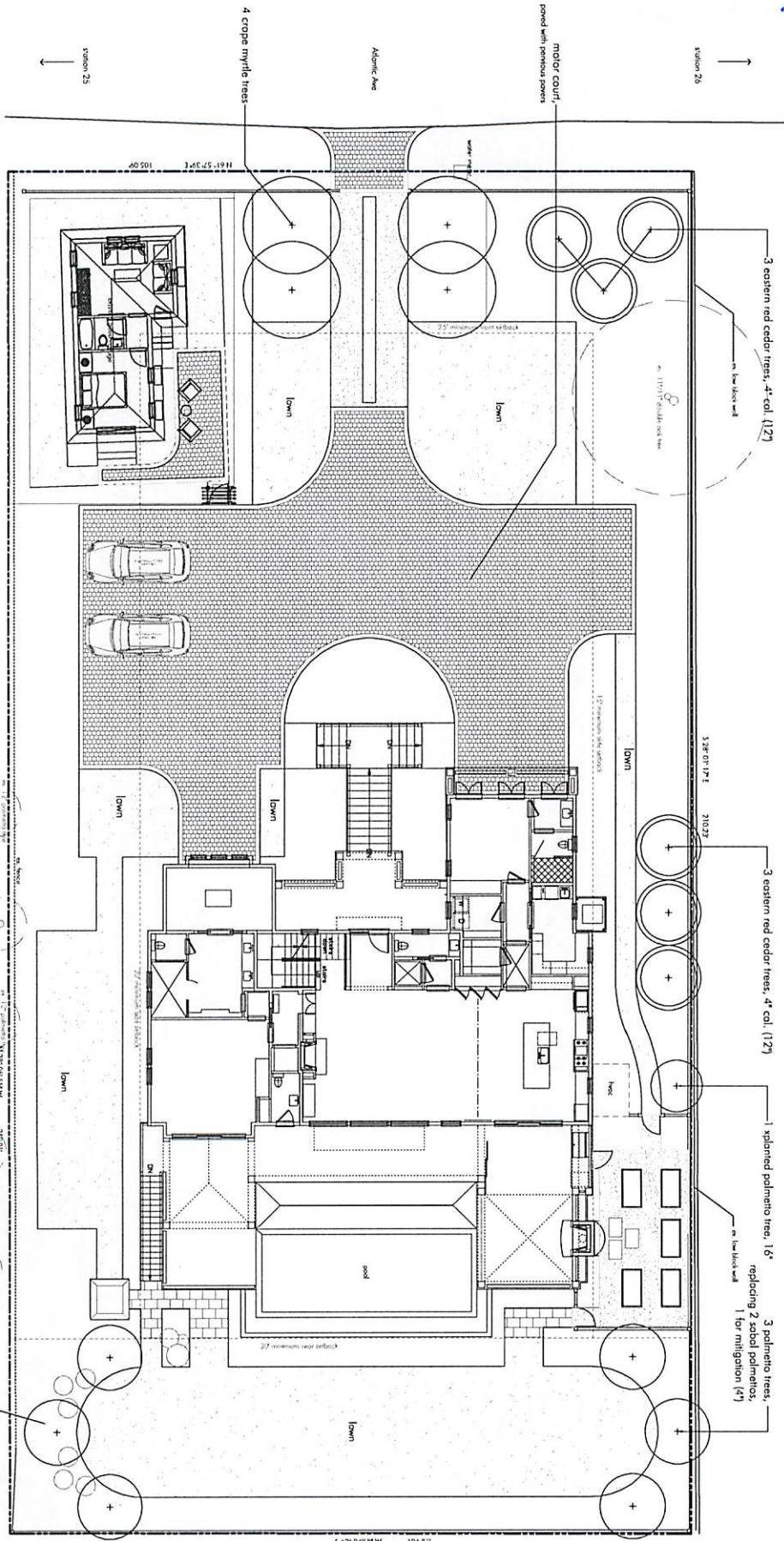


Nathaniel H. Robb Jr., Chairman



Date

Exhibit 2



- Tree Mitigation Chart:**
- Tree Removals:**
- 16 pinus palmitum
 - 1 double pecan tree, 12"/12"
 - 1 pecan tree, 24"
 - 1 palmetto tree, 12"
 - 1 palmetto tree, 14"
- Hazardous Tree Removals:**
- 4 hackberry trees, 5", 3", 4", 4" - all dead trees
- Palmetto Tree Transplants:**
- 1 palmetto tree
 - 1 palmetto tree
 - * all trees removed on site will be coordinated on the work connector prior to clearing
- Proposed Replacements:**
- 6 Eastern Red Cedars, 4" cal., 24" towards mitigation
 - 2 palmetto trees to replace 2 palmetto trees
 - 4 palmetto trees, 4" cal. - 16" towards mitigation
- Payment to Tree Mitigation Fund:**
- 6 inches to fund = \$ 690 00
 - 40 inches through replanting
 - 6 inches to fund
- Total Tree Mitigation Required and Met:**
- Total: 46 inches