

# TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

## TREE COMMISSION

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 26, 2018

A regular meeting of the Town of Sullivan's Island Tree Commission was held at 5:00 p.m., Monday, February 26, 2018 at Town Hall, 2056 Middle Street. All requirements of the Freedom of Information Act were confirmed to have been satisfied. Present were Commission members Nat Robb, Adele Tobin, and Milton Langley.

Staff members present: Jessi Gress and Joe Henderson

**I. Call to Order.** Vice Chair Nat Robb called the meeting to order and stated the press and public were duly notified pursuant to state law and all Commissioners present. There were no members of the public or media present.

**II. Approval of Agenda – Commission made no changes to Agenda**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**IV. TREE REMOVAL REQUESTS**

**2302 Middle Street:**

Joe Henderson stated that there is a request for a Category 1 live oak removal. The 17-inch diameter tree is located on the Middle Street side. This is the old grade school property. It has been to the DRB several times. The applicant has been granted for final approval for all site modifications and the restoration work including the pool located in the middle of the property. The applicants are asking the removal of the 17-inch diameter tree located in the footprint of the pool. The applicants are purposing three 18-inch live oaks for replacement on the eastern side of the property. An arborist letter from Jerry Benoit has stated that the structure of the tree is flawed and the way the tree was planted. This tree was planted with improper techniques. It was left in the wire container which is causing the structure problems. Jerry Benoit stated that who ever planted it left in its main wire basket and nylon strapping. When the strap was cut the tree spread open about an inch and a half. The structure is compromised. It has been deemed unsafe to have anyone underneath it. Milton Langley asked what is being presented in front of us today. Henderson stated that they are proposing three 6-inch live oaks on the eastern side of the property. **Milton Langley made a motion to accept the application with the stipulation that they do replace the 17-inch live oak with the three 6-inch live oaks. Nat Robb seconds that motion. The motion passed by a vote of two with one opposing.**

**2656 Jasper Boulevard:**

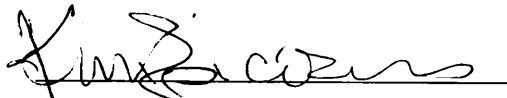
Joe Henderson stated that the applicant is requesting the removal of two Category 1 live oaks at 18-inches and 20-inches. This project has been presented to us before. It was denied due to the trees healthiness. The property owners requested a arborist come and give a professional opinion on what would happen to the two trees, long term and short term, when construction begins. The

applicant did receive a modification from the DRB to move the addition over to meet a 10-foot side set back but they desire not to take advantage of that DRB allowance. Todd Nedorostek states that based on the position of the trees and the additional construction his professional opinion is that there will be a lot of damage to the roots of the trees. He believes that with the construction and the footers that have to be inserted for the addition to be built, it will kill these trees. Adele Tobin believes that nothing has changed since the applicant brought this to us in December. The owners stated that they requested the setback from the DRB because they wanted to save the trees if they could. They received comments from the arborist and three different contractors that told them that building the addition will cause damage to both trees. They want to build around them but even building around them it will disrupt the trees and cause damage to them. The home owners are willing to mitigate what ever they need to do in order to remove these trees from this location. **Milton Langley made a motion to deny the removal of both Category 1 live oaks. Adele Tobin seconded that motion. Two were in favor one apposed.**

#### **V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Adele Tobin asked if we could look into the possibility of using the Tree Commission funds to clear the top of Battery Gaston. Currently there is no estimate on the cost of the job. Joe Henderson stated that he would investigate the cost and the scope of work for this project.

**Adele Tobin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:28 pm.**



Ken Spicer, Chairman

