

# TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

## TREE COMMISSION

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 27, 2018

A regular meeting of the Town of Sullivan's Island Tree Commission was held on the above date at 5:00 p.m. at the Sullivan's Island Town Hall, 2056 Middle Street. All requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied. Present were Commission members Mary English, Milton Langley, Kenneth Spicer and Adele Tobin.

Staff members present: Joe Henderson, AICP, ISA Certified Arborist and Jessica Gress

- I. **Call to Order:** Kenneth Spicer called the meeting to order and stated that 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 the Agenda**
- III. **Approval of Minutes: Adele Tobin made a motion to approve the June 25, 2018 Tree Commission Minutes. Mary English seconded this motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### IV. TREE REMOVAL REQUESTS

**1. 2850 Jasper Boulevard:** James Quarles, applicant, requested to remove two Category 1 trees: one codominant live oak at 23" and 24" dbh (diameter at breast height), and one hackberry with a dbh of 23". The request was made in accordance with Zoning Ordinance Section 21-162. B. (Application for relocation, or removal and replacement) (TMS# 529-10-00-031)

Joe Henderson stated that the applicants received approval of a historic accessory dwelling unit (ADU) special exception in 2016, which allowed the construction of a new home on the marsh side of the property. The request involves removal of the codominant live oak that leans toward the future footprint of the home. The hackberry is located within the eastern side setback. The applicants have proposed a replanting plan of a row of sable palmettos (7 planted in the past year), eaglestone holly trees (8 planted in the past year) and new live oaks (four 6" and one 4")

Milton Langley asked if removing half of the tree would be an option as opposed to removing the whole tree. Henderson stated that when removing half of the tree you would be removing more than fifty percent of the canopy and because of the proximity of the critical root zone in reference to the slab, would likely cause decline in the tree's health. The Board agrees that this is a healthy live oak and thinks that the applicant can come up with a revised plan to meet the homeowners request and save the live oak. **Mary English made a motion to keep the**

hackberry tree and asked the applicant to come back with a revised plan so the removal of the live oak is not needed. Kenneth Spicer seconded this motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

**2. 1657 Poe Avenue:** David Wike, applicant, requested approval to remove two Category 1 trees, one hackberry in decline and one pine tree with a dbh of 23” in accordance with Zoning Ordinance Section 21-162. B. (Application for relocation, or removal and replacement). (TMS# 523-12-00-063)

Henderson stated that the applicant has proposed a replanting plan which includes sabal palmettos to be planed on the right-side property line and in along the street frontage of the home (7 total). Henderson reminded the Commission that 1/3 of the mitigation amount should include sabal palmettos (8”) and the remaining 15” should be of an alternative species. This would account for the 23” for the pine removal. The Hackberry is damaged and deemed hazardous due to the identified cavity at the root flare.

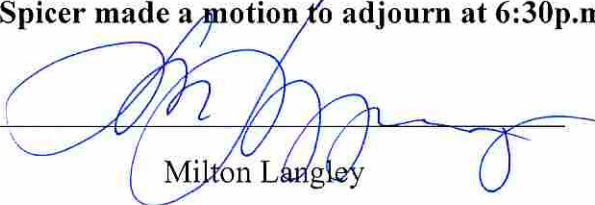
The applicant stressed the importance of the removal of the pine tree because if a storm were to come through Sullivan’s Island it will take this tree down and cause damage to his home and his neighbors. Kenneth Spicer informed him that as the Board we cannot grant a tree removal request just because it could be potentially hazardous in the event of a storm or natural disaster. **Kenneth Spicer made a motion to approve the removal of the hackberry tree and the pine tree as long as the applicant replants one Category 1 tree at four to five inches in diameter located anywhere on the property. Mary English seconded this motion. Three were in favor. Milton Langley opposed. Motion passed three to one.**

## V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

### 1. Tree Fund project update:

Henderson stated that the SCDOT removed the pine tree located on Station 17 Street. The stumps are still there however has requested that the DOT remove the stump several times. He explained that if SCDOT does not remove the stumps, the Town will remove them with money from the Tree Fund.

**Kenneth Spicer made a motion to adjourn at 6:30p.m.**

  
Milton Langley

  
Date