



FOX CHAPEL

BOROUGH

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING August 14, 2023 MINUTES

PRESENT: Austin P. Henry, Chairman; Nanette Bennett, Peggy G. Jayme, Brenda McEver, Thomas J. Murphy, Donald H. Newman, Jay S. Troutman, Members; Dan Moretti, Zoning Administrator; John Heyl, Borough Engineer; Kelsey Mersing, Borough Administrative Assistant

VIA ZOOM: Tysen Miller, Jake Dykes, KU Resources, Inc.; and one additional attendee

ALSO PRESENT: Brian Almeter, Fahringer, McCarty, Grey, Inc.; John H. Miller; Andrew Laman and Paula Jernigan; William Tippins; Frederick Leech, Borough Council; Michael Pohl

Mr. Henry called the meeting to order at 6:59 PM.

It was moved by Ms. Jayme and seconded by Mr. Newman that the minutes from the meeting held on July 10, 2023, be approved as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

EAC Application: Robert and Christy Hofmann
23-17 Submitted by Fahringer, McCarty, Grey, Inc.
21 Fairview Manor
New Single-Family Dwelling

Brian Almeter from Fahringer, McCarty, Grey, Inc. was in attendance to present the application for the construction of a new single-family residence at 21 Fairview Manor with driveway, patio, and associated stormwater management facilities. The application also includes the proposal to remove 15 trees over 6" DBH, with 15 trees to be replanted. The applicant is seeking a waiver of the requirement to provide a geotechnical report.

Mr. Almeter described the functionality of the detention facility and level spreader in detail at the request of Mr. Henry.

Most of the trees scheduled for removal are located within the limit of disturbance. Mr. Troutman noted four Oaks on the property and asked the applicant to consider more in the replacement as they would be more similar in scale to the Wild Cherry and would help with stormwater management. Ms. Jayme agreed that she would like to see additional hardwoods in the replanting as 14 hardwoods are being removed.

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Following review and discussion, Mr. Troutman moved that Environmental Disturbance Application No. 23-17 be recommended for approval by Borough Council as submitted with the waiver from the geotechnical report being granted as requested and contingent upon the replanting of 1:1 hardwoods with a recommended emphasis on Oak tree replacements. Also contingent upon the items set forth in the LSSE letter dated August 10, 2023.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy and passed by unanimous vote.

Tree Removal Application: Andrew Laman and Paula Jernigan
TR-23-93 109 Hillcrest Road
Removal of 4 trees

Paula Jernigan was in attendance to answer questions relative to the removal of 4 trees over 6" DBH on her property. The trees for removal are overgrown and suffer from needle cast disease as reported in the Plant Specimen Diagnostic Report provided to the EAC. In addition, Tree Nos. 1-3 are overcrowding the more desirable trees surrounding them. Ms. Jernigan stated in the last twelve months, she has planted approximately 114 trees. She intends to replace Tree No. 4, but has requested credits for the remaining three trees considering the amount of trees they have planted on the property.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Troutman moved that Tree Removal Application TR-23-93 be recommended for approval by Borough Council as submitted.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Newman and passed by unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

EAC Application: Ellen and Randall Crawford
23-11 Submitted by KU Resources, Inc.
103 Catalpa Ridge Road
Regrading and Drainage Work to Redirect Stormwater

Tysen Miller from KU Resources, Inc. was in attendance to provide an update on the investigation into nearby storm infrastructures. They were able to locate an inlet on the property and have redesigned the proposed system to include an inlet at the bottom of the swale that connects the new inlet to the existing one on the property.

Mr. Troutman thanked Mr. Royston for his efforts to get the neighbors involved in a positive way to help reach a solution.

There was a discussion about whether an Operations and Maintenance Agreement should be a requirement of the homeowner to ensure the existing inlet is properly maintained to prevent flooding in the future. It was determined that the ordinance does not apply in this case. A trash rack was suggested as an option to help prevent clogging of the inlet.

Following review and discussion, Ms. McEver moved that Environmental Disturbance Application No. 23-11 be recommended for approval by Borough Council as submitted with a request that a new grate or trash rack be considered for the inlet structure.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Newman and passed by unanimous vote.

Environmental Disturbance Application:
22-01

William C Tippins
109 Hickory Hill Road
Expiration of EAC Application

Mr. Tippins was in attendance to summarize his submitted proposal for the replanting of 23 trees for the purpose of screening between his property and the property at 107 Hickory Hill Road. The plan was designed to limit any further disturbance when it comes time to build.

Ms. Bennett commented that it is a lovely list of trees but she has concerns that some will become quite large and overcrowded in the space allotted for planting them. Additionally, Mr. Troutman suggested mixing the variety of Oaks as Red Oaks are more susceptible to Oak wilt. Ms. Jayme also expressed the same worry about the variety of Spruce trees selected.

There was further discussion regarding the perennial vegetation of the lot.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Newman moved that the replanting plan provided by Mr. Tippins be recommended for approval by Borough Council as submitted, contingent upon the lot being brought into compliance with the Gateway report and its classification as meadow by having continuous cover vegetation across the lot in accordance with the E&S plan submitted by the applicant requiring permanent vegetation.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Bennett and passed by unanimous vote.

There being no other business to come before the EAC, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.

KELSEY M. MERSING
Administrative Assistant