MINUTES

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING HELD JUNE 14, 2021**

PRESENT: Austin P. Henry, Chairman; Nanette Bennett, Peggy G. Jayme, Thomas J. Murphy, Donald H. Newman, Walter A. Scott, III, Members; Paul R. Bell, Code Official; John Heyl, Borough Engineer; Shawn Peterson, Borough Secretary

ALSO

PRESENT: Jon Sweringen, and Hudson Rabenold, Fahringer, McCarty, Grey, Inc.; Jim Mitnik,

 Anthony Pompeo, Anthony Pompeo, Jr., Mandy Steele, Matt Erb, Tree Pittsburgh;

 one resident

ABSENT: Jay S. Troutman, Member

Mr. Henry called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

 It was moved and seconded that the minutes from the meeting held on April 12, 2021, be approved as distributed. Motion carried unanimously.

Application No. 21-06: David & Luci Massaro

 219 Hunt Road

 Proposed Addition & Site Improvements

Jon Sweringen and Husdon Rabenold from Fahringer, McCarty, Grey, Inc. were in attendance to discuss the proposed construction of an addition to the home at 219 Hunt Road. This addition consists of a covered patio, fire pit, concrete paver walkways, and a stormwater management system. The application also includes the proposal to remove two trees over 6" DBH.

 Following review and discussion, it was moved by Mr. Murphy that Application No. 21-06 be recommended for approval by Borough Council as submitted with the following conditions:

* All recommendations by the Borough Engineer's review letter dated June 4, 2021, including:
* A waiver of disturbance of very steep slopes up to 38.3%
* Relocation of the outfall from the detention facility to fifty feet from the property line
* Changing the device from an apron to a level spreader with infiltration to further diffuse the flow
* Contingent upon the replanting of two hardwood trees to replace the removal of two trees on the property.

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

Application 21-07: Cooper-Siegel Community Library

 405 Fox Chapel Road

 Proposed Demolition & Sitework

John Heyl from Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering, Inc. discussed the proposed demolition of the existing residence, foundation, garage, driveway, walkways, and low retaining walls. This application also includes the proposal to remove eleven trees over 6" DBH.

Mr. Heyl stated that four evergreens and seven hardwood trees would be removed. The replanting plan consists of replanting eleven hardwoods and five pines. Ms. Jayme recommended that tree no. 12, a 48" maple, be preserved by cabling. She also mentioned saving the plant material for reuse on the property.

Following review and discussion, it was moved by Ms. Jayme that Application No. 21-07 be recommended for approval by Borough Council as submitted with the following:

* Waiver of the geotechnical report
* Contingent upon completion of other pending items indicated on the first page of the checklist

This also includes the approval of the replanting plan as submitted.

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

 Application 20-05: Anthony Pompeo

 100 Riding Trail Lane

 Proposed Driveway Revision

 Anthony Pompeo and Anthony Pompeo, Jr. were in attendance to amend the approved application requesting a revision to the driveway location. Currently, the application was for a commonly-shared driveway at 102 Riding Trail Lane. The proposal asks for an individual driveway sixty feet north of the commonly-shared drive for 100 Riding Trail Lane.

Following review and discussion, it was moved by Mr. Murphy that the amendment to the previously approved Application No. 20-05 be recommended for approval by Borough Council as submitted with the following:

* Contingent upon the addition of one more hardwood tree added to the replanting plan.

Ms. Jayme seconded the motion. All EAC members were in favor of the motion with a Nay vote from Mr. Newman.

Fox Chapel Tree Regulations

 In coordination with Councilperson Ms. Steele, Matt Erb, Director of Forestry Management for Tree Pittsburgh, was in attendance to discuss the Borough's current regulations regarding trees.

 Mr. Erb stated that Tree Pittsburgh conducted a study of the tree canopy change in Allegheny County in 2010 and 2015 and compared the results. Fox Chapel had a tree canopy loss of 140 acres, which equals 22,000 trees. He stated that ten percent of the loss is attributed to natural causes such as Emerald Ash Bore and Oak Wilt.

 Following the discussion, Mr. Henry asked Mr. Erb to send the EAC relevant information to assist the EAC in making a recommendation to Borough Council for improvements to the Borough Code while being mindful to the EAC’s obligation to the Borough citizens to be reasonable and not obstructionist of development on private property.

Term Expiration

 Mr. Henry alerted the commission members to Ms. Jayme's term expiration. As Chair, Mr. Henry recommended the re-appointment of Ms. Jayme, stating that she is a dedicated member of the EAC, a wonderful asset to the entire community, and there is no better person to fill the seat.

Mr. Murphy moved to strongly recommend to Council the re-appointment of Ms. Jayme to the EAC. The motion was seconded by Mayor Scott and passed by a unanimous vote.

Other Business

 Ms. Jayme noted that she noticed that a property that had come before the EAC last year that had replanted three hardwoods in place of two large Oak trees no longer had the three hardwood trees on the property. She stated that the trees were removed almost six months after they were planted on the property.

 Mr. Henry stated that this act was unfortunate and disappointing to the committee as well as Borough Council. He said that the EAC would be making recommendations to Borough Council to improve the Borough Code to address replanting obligations in the future.

There being no other business to come before the EAC, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM.

 SHAWN M. PETERSON

 Borough Secretary