MINUTES OF THE TREE COMMISSION
OF
THE BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
JANUARY 12, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.

The meeting of the Sewickley Borough Tree Commission was held on Monday, January 12, 2015. Chair Kathy Brandt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Sewickley Borough offices, 601 Thorn Street, Sewickley, PA 15143

Those in attendance were:

Members:
Kathy Brandt
Cindy Mullins
Larry Rice
Lori Capone Cirilano
Michelle Denk

Of Counsel:
Councilman Bill Cornman
Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery
Borough Arborist Jim Edson

Guests: Nicole M. Oeler, RLA, ASLA, LEED GA
Landscape Architect of The Gateway Engineers, Inc., representing Charter Homes

I. Approval of minutes of November 10, 2014 Meeting

The Minutes of the November 10, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved, with the correction of the spelling of Cindy Mullins last name.

II. Old business

Activity Sheet: The Recommendation Activity Sheet of January 5, 2105 was reviewed. Plantings for Ferry Street were moved to the Spring Planting List. An additional Ferry Street resident has requested a tree in her yard, Patricia Grey who resides at 329 Ferry, Street, Sewickley, PA 15143.

III. New Business

Charter Homes

Nicole Oeler, Landscape Architect representing Charter Homes, showcased the plan for residential development at the new construction site located between Thorn and Ohio River Blvd. at the location of the past Sewickley Country Inn.

Charter Homes proposes to remove a total of ten trees to clear way for the construction and eventually plant 27 new trees throughout the residential plan. Eight of the ten trees to be removed are in close proximity to the street.

Jim Edson recommends that the new trees be planted in groups of like species to avoid disparity in growth rates and habits. For example, Oaks should be together and Elms should be together rather than alternating tree species. Charter Homes was asked to redo the drawings, at the appropriate time, to incorporate planting in accordance with Jim Edson's request for like grouping.

Kevin Flannery requested that the new trees be planted as the construction of homes progresses, in accordance with the growing season, rather than at the conclusion of the entire project in order to avoid a stark look at the site.

On motion of Michelle Denk,, seconded by Larry Rice, the Tree Commission voted unanimously to accept the initial Charter Homes landscape plan as presented, subject to the following

- submittal of a revised drawing
- submittal of a planting schedule pursuant to construction and planting season
- grouping of trees of like species.

Arborist's Report

Jim Edson requests that no work by pruning contractors is to begin until he meets with each contractor to assure that the contractor's goal is inline with Sewickley Borough's goal which is to leave as much live material as possible on the tree and to avoid pruning off the top of trees.

On motion of Michele Denk, seconded by Lori Capone, the Tree Commission voted unanimously to approve the Borough Arborist's Report as presented.

The Borough Council re-appointed Cynthia Mullins to a five-year term on the Tree Commission.

IV. Next Meeting – Monday, February 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

With no other business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Capone Cirilano
Secretary