

**PARKS AND SHADE TREE COMMISSION
CITY OF REHOBOTH BEACH**

December 14, 2015

The Parks and Shade Tree Commission Meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. by Chair Priscilla Smith on Monday, December 14, 2015 on the second floor of the Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company, 219 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Priscilla Smith
Ms. Jane Wyatt
Mr. Ned Kesmodel
Ms. Anne Hubbard

Absent: Ms. Marcia Maldeis

Also present: Building Inspector Damalier Molina

Also absent: City Solicitor Glenn Mandalas

A quorum was present.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No Minutes were available for approval.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

The purpose of this meeting was to conduct an administrative appeal hearing pursuant to the Comprehensive Tree Ordinance (Chapter 253 of the Municipal Code of the City of Rehoboth Beach).

Appeal Hearing No. 1015-05 was requested by Kristen Waterfield, owner of the property located at 121 Laurel Street pursuant to Section 253-36 of the Municipal Code of the City of Rehoboth Beach, and pertains to denial of a request to remove six (6) trees and a determination of a mitigation fee in lieu of and/or a reduction of mitigation based on the survey.

Building Inspector Damalier Molina read his report which had been distributed with exhibits prior to the meeting. (Copies attached.) City Arborist Stacy Parsons granted approval for removal of (5) cedar trees totaling 49 inches and not requiring mitigation. The appeal seeks relief for removal of six (6) trees totaling 95 inches. No trees are proposed to be preserved. The minimum tree density required for this lot is five (5) trees. To meet the tree density requirement, two hardwood, two ornamental and one evergreen tree must be planted. Remaining are 27 trees to be approved as fee in lieu of mitigation.

Mr. Eric Brough of Garrison Homes represented Ms. Kristen Waterfield, owner of the property. The Japanese Maple is in the path of construction. He was in favor of keeping the Red Cedar at the rear of the property. The Arborvitae is in the path of construction. The Norway Spruce would also be removed.

Ms. Kristen Waterfield was open to replanting or mitigation. The tree planting plan would be based on the decision made by the Commission.

There was no public comment.

Chair Smith closed the public portion of the hearing and called for discussion among the members of the Parks and Shade Tree Commission.

Mr. Ned Kesmodel made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jane Wyatt, that the owner is allowed to remove all the trees except for the Red Cedar at the right rear of the property, plant five trees on the property and pay the mitigation fee in the amount of \$3,000.00 to the City of Rehoboth Beach. (Smith – aye, Kesmodel – aye, Wyatt – aye, Hubbard – aye.) Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

There being no further business Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(Ann M. Womack, City Secretary)

**MINUTES APPROVED ON
JANUARY 25, 2016**

(Priscilla Smith, Chair)