



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

MEMORANDUM

March 9, 2020

TO: Mayor and Board of Commissioners
FROM: Community Appearance Commission
REF: Committee Report – March 9, 2020

**1. Proclamation Declaring the Live Oak as Kill Devil Hills' Town Tree
(Attached CR-1)**

At the Community Appearance Commission's (CAC) November 7, 2019 meeting, the possibility of having the Live Oak tree established as the official "Town Tree" was discussed and a proclamation considered. The proclamation was a result of the CAC's desire to encourage the Kill Devil Hills community to maintain existing trees as our community grows.

As the proclamation states, the Live Oak is a native tree with many positive impacts for our local environment, including food and habitat for wildlife, soil erosion deterrent, and oxygen producer.

The CAC is pleased to recommend the Board of Commissioners' favorable consideration of the attached *Proclamation Declaring the Live Oak as Kill Devil Hills' Town Tree*.

Thank you.



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Proclamation Declaring the Live Oak as Kill Devil Hills' Town Tree

WHEREAS, *Quercus virginiana*, commonly known as the Live Oak, is symbolic of the deep south and is common on the Outer Banks of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Live Oak is salt, sand, and wind tolerant; and

WHEREAS, the Live Oak is considered an evergreen, shedding its leaves in the spring when new foliage is forming; and

WHEREAS, the Live Oak provides great habitat and food for wildlife, as do all our native oaks; and

WHEREAS, the Live Oak is the stalwart of the southern trees, and has long been revered owing to its draping, twisted limbs to get the most fortuitous sunlight to find its place on this sometimes harsh and unpredictable environment; and rugged ridged bark and dense, ship-worthy wood; and

WHEREAS, trees prevent erosion of the soil, as well as provide a home for a variety of animals. Of critical importance to humans, they also play a major role in producing the oxygen we breathe and cleaning carbon dioxide out of the air.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners has the distinct honor of proclaiming the Live Oak as the Town of Kill Devil Hills' official tree, which will be commemorated with the planting of a sapling on Town property on National Arbor Day, April 24, 2020 and on every subsequent last Friday in April.

This the ____ day of _____, 20__.

SEAL

Ben Sproul
Mayor

ATTEST:

Deputy Town Clerk