

TREE COMMISSION MINUTES
February 19, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Vickers, Chairman, Dranesville District
Jeanne Kadet, Braddock District
Scott Pearson, Mason District
Jerry Peters, NV Soil & Water Conservation District
Eleanor Quigley, Mt. Vernon District
Bill Schoonmaker, Sully District
Butch Loughry, Fairfax County Park Authority
Jim McGlone, Vice Chairman, VA Dept. of Forestry
Dragan Momcilovic, Hunter Mill District
Rick Ayers, Providence District

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chet McLaren, Member At-Large
Sheila Allen, VA Cooperative Extension
Dean Dastvar, Springfield District
Mekell Mikell, Lee District

VACANT POSITION: Environmental Quality Advisory Council
Springfield District

STAFF PRESENT: Keith Cline, Director, Urban Forest Management Division (UFMD)
Jay Banks, Urban Forester II, UFMD

Call to Order

Chairman Vickers called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Minutes

January minutes were reviewed and approved by the commission.

Tree Forum Update

Chairman Vickers announced there are two forums already scheduled: (1) March 24th at the McLean Community Center, 7:30-9:30 pm, Protecting Neighborhood Tree Cover; (2) April 22nd at Braddock Hall. 7:30-9:00 pm, How to Protect and Preserve Trees in Yards.

Springfest Update

Commissioner Kadet mentioned they will hopefully secure a table near a power source for their computer presentations. Also the commission discussed scheduling coverage for their table. Chairman Vickers mentioned that the Friends of Trees awards will not be held at Springfest. They will take place at a future Board of Supervisors meeting.

Friends of Trees

Chairman Vickers stated the need to finalize nominations for a May or June Board of Supervisors meeting date for the presentation of awards. Nominations should be wrapped up for discussion at the March meeting. UFMD staff to assist as needed.

Website Update

Chairman Vickers reported that he has been in touch with Tina Gum, Fairfax County IT Services, to work on strategies to have the Commission's page appear on internet searches and that Commissioner Ayers is continuing to work on and update the tree commission's website.

UFMD Report

Director Cline reported UFMD is in the process of filling three Urban Forester II positions, two candidates have been selected to date and pursuing filling the third position.

Commissioner Reports

- * Commissioner Loughry mentioned his office is in the process of filling two tree trimmer vacancies.
- * Commissioner Quigley talked about the Vulcan/FCWA quarry application.
- * Commissioner McGlone announced that Fairfax County will receive its 2014 Tree City USA Award at this year's Springfest (32 consecutive years); the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District has launched its 2015 tree and shrub seedling sale; the Roanoke Tree Care Workshop will be held on March 12; the NoVa Roundtable is scheduled for February 26.
- * Commissioner Schoonmaker mentioned District Supervisor Frey will not be seeking reelection.
- * Commissioner Kadet referred to a contact she received regarding a possible oldest tree in Fairfax County. Chairman Vickers to follow-up.
- * Commissioner Peters mentioned an article in the recent edition of the Connection that covered the Deer issue in Fairfax County.
- * Commissioner Ayers discussed an idea to have an award for a holistic approach to landscape design.

Speakers

Commissioner Quigley distributed a listing of potential topics and speakers. The commission had a brief discussion on pursuing speakers for future meetings.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.