

TREE COMMISSION MINUTES

March 17, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Vickers, Chair, Dranesville District
Jim McGlone, Vice Chair, VA Dept. of Forestry
Jeanne Kadet, Braddock District
Chet McLaren, Member At-Large
Eleanor Quigley, Mt. Vernon District
Dragan Momcilovic, Hunter Mill District
Karen Campblin, Sully District
Sheila Allen, VA Cooperative Extension
Rick Ayers, Providence District
Jessica Bowser, Lee District
Rick Healy, Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC)
Jerry Peters, NV Soil & Water Conservation District

MEMBERS ABSENT:

VACANT POSITION: Springfield District
Mason District
Fairfax County Park Authority

STAFF PRESENT: Hugh Whitehead, Urban Forester III, UFMD
Linda Barfield, Urban Forester II, UFMD

STAFF ABSENT: Keith Cline, Director, UFMD

Call to Order

Chairman Vickers called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

Minutes

Chairman Vickers noted some missing minutes are not posted to the Tree Commission website. Commissioner Peters requested discussion on the presentation "Healthy Forests" by Joe Marx. Chairman Vickers stated that he thought the presentation was great. Commissioner McGlone commented on deer population effects on natural forest regeneration and some findings of presentation that appear to be not based on researched evidence. Commissioner Quigley contacted Mr. Marx to thank him for presenting and that Mr. Marx expressed interest in communicating with Commissioner McGlone on comments and issues and conducting literature search. Commissioner Peters asked for follow-up response from Mr. Marx at next meeting.

The February minutes were reviewed and motion to approve requested by Chairman Vickers, seconded by Commissioners McLaren and Quigley, unanimously approved by all commission members.

Introductions-St. Patrick's Day attire highlights noted.

Logo for Springfest stickers-Commissioner Kadet reminded the Tree Commission that SpringFest will be April 30th and presented options for logo stickers. She asked that Commissioners sign next to favorite sticker design. Commissioner Quigley suggested a revision to Logo #5 (Preserving and Protecting our Urban Forest) which was determined to be preferred by a majority. Kadet confirmed

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the sign up schedule for the event shifts. Kadet will send out the volunteer schedule and asked about the tree cookie.

Chairman Kadet is looking for questions oriented to children. There was discussion about wind at event last year and Chairman Vickers asked about UFMD participation. L. Barfield mentioned that Joan Allen is coordinating sharing a tent with Waste to Energy company (Covanta Fairfax, Inc). Commissioner Kadet asked if Jay Banks will be offering "How to kill a tree", as she thought it was very good but needed more promotion.

Friends of Trees Awards

Chairman Vickers read the several nominations submitted.

- 1) Merrifield Garden Center- Presented by Commissioner Allen-Discussion of issues and she will revise to make shorter. 10 voted in pro and two against/abstained.
- 2) Jerry Peters-Commissioner McGlone read the nomination for deer management efforts. (Commissioner Peters thanked for nomination then left room for vote.) 10 voted in pro and two against/abstained.
- 3) Eleanor Quigley- Chairman Vickers read the nomination. Commissioner Kadet offered some minor revisions to improve the nomination. Commissioner Quigley thanked all for the nomination and explained background participation history. Chairman Vickers requested the nominee to leave room for vote. There was discussion about her over 15 years of pro-active, dedicated, passionate service. 11 voted in pro and one abstained.

Tree Forum Event update-Chairman Vickers stated that the event at Great Falls Grange was held March 8th in cooperation with organizations including the Great Falls Citizens Association. Supervisor Foust and the press also attended. Update on Infill legislation passed in state house and senate and pending to be signed by Governor. Discussion about Infill lot and tree conservation issues in Dranesville and Mt. Vernon districts. Another Tree Forum is planned for April. Commissioner Quigley mentioned tree forum "Keeping trees healthy & canopy strong" in the fall in Mt. Vernon.

UFMD Report

Hugh Whitehead, Urban Forester III, presented the Tree Preservation and Planting Fund final draft proposal for tree planting areas and asked for approval from the Tree Commission. Following discussion amongst the Tree Commission, the proposal versus the separate procedure document was clarified. Commissioner Quigley requested motion to approve. Unanimously approved. Mr. Whitehead to draft letter of support addressed to Supervisor Gross for signature.

Commissioner Reports

- Chairman McLauren (Member at Large) discussed the Lake Accotink Park Master Plan revision planning meeting held by the Park Authority. Next meeting is scheduled for May 16th @ 7:00 at the Kings Glen Elementary School.
- Vice Chair McGlone (VA Dept. of Forestry) reported that Delegate Hope changed noxious weed definition; encouraged private landowners who have a history of forest management and live on the land to apply for the Forest Legacy program-to receive a signage recognition for the property; mentioned the loss of Paul Revell-U&CF State Coordinator who passed away today and will be greatly missed.

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- Commissioner Campblin (Sully District) offered assistance with outreach activities.
- Commissioner Quigley (Mt. Vernon District) invited all to participate in English Ivy removal at McCutchen Park; shared an article about Streetscapes and Pocket parks; looking for technical assistance for Rt. 1 corridor. Mr. Whitehead recommended contact Nick Drunusky-Urban Forester for Mt. Vernon about study conducted in recent past for the area and Sonya Ewing of Office of Community Revitalization.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Prepared by: Linda Barfield-revised 4/26/2016