

TREE COMMISSION MINUTES

DRAFT

July 17, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sheila Allen, VA Coop. Extension
Jeanne Kadet, Braddock District
Butch Loughry, Fairfax County Park Authority
Chet McLaren, Member At-Large
Mekell Mikell, Lee District
Dragan Momcilovic, Hunter Mill District
Jerry Peters, NV Soil & Water Conservation District
Eleanor Quigley, Mt. Vernon District

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rick Ayers, Providence District
Dean Dastvar Springfield District
Jim McGlone, Vice Chair, VA Dept. of Forestry
Robert Vickers, Chair, Dranesville District
Scott Pearson, Mason District
Bill Schoonmaker, Sully District

VACANT POSITIONS: Environmental Quality Advisory Council

STAFF PRESENT: Keith Cline, Director, Urban Forest Management
Todd Nelson, Urban Forester, Urban Forest Management

Call to Order:

Commissioner Quigley called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

The Tree Commission was unable to conduct official business at the start of the meeting as a quorum was not present.

GIS Meeting:

Commissioner Peters provided an update on the meeting he had with County GIS staff regarding how the Tree Commission can utilize geographic information systems to assist the Tree Commission in advocating for trees. Topics included the possibility of placing the trees on the Big Tree Registry on a map that also provides a link to the Tree Commission Web site; have the public pull up a map of those locations to see the sites and pictures of the trees; information on the Tree Conservation Awards; and locations of development(?). Commissioner Peters stated the County has concerns with providing links on County web site to outside agencies and that Mike Liddle, GIS employee, is currently working on a policy to address this. Commissioner Peters stated there is no deadline for the creation of the policy. Commissioner Quigley recommended following up with Mr. Liddle regarding the status of the policy. Keith Cline stated he will work with Rick Ayers to provide an update to the Tree Commission at the September 2014 meeting.

Website Designer Meeting:

Commissioner Kadet provided an update on the meeting she had with Tina Gum, Web Content Developer, who set up a temporary Tree Commission web site for the Tree Commissioners to review and provide suggestions. Commissioner Kadet stated she will contact Ms. Gum and request she send the link to the temporary web site to the Tree Commission for review. Commissioner Mikell recommended the Tree Commission consider including names, photos, districts, and email addresses of each Tree Commissioner on the Web site. Commissioner Kadet

requested the Tree Commission review the content and design of the site and be ready to discuss during the September 2014 meeting.

Keith Cline stated he will ask Joan Allen to continue to facilitate future meetings between the Tree Commission and web designers.

Quorum Present:

Additional Tree Commissioners arrived at the meeting at 8:01, enabling the Tree Commission to conduct official business.

Review/Approval of the June 2014 Minutes

The June 2014 Tree Commission Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Peters provided an update on the inter-agency Deer Management Committee. The committee is attracting interest from new parties who will be invited to attend the July 2014 meeting, which will focus on providing those parties with background information and bringing them up to date on the work of the committee.

Commission Mikell proposed establishing a call in number for Tree Commissioners to use in the event they are unable to attend a Tree Commission meeting in person.

Commissioner Loughry mentioned FCPA is re-advertising for a position they have been unable to fill.

Commissioner Allen mentioned she is working on setting up a Master Gardeners Workshop. She also shared recent test results found on plant samples submitted to the VCE plant diagnostic lab. The Tree Commission recommended Commissioner Allen share this information on a regular basis.

Commissioner Momcilovic discussed his input in the redesign of a soccer field in a park in the Tysons Corner area; stated he will prepare a presentation to share his various concerns with the Tree Commission; and discussed what he saw during a recent drive through Chesterbrook.

Commissioner Quigley provided information on 'Landscape for Life' presented at the Environment and Recreation Committee of the Mt. Vernon Citizens Association's May meeting and information on her recent meeting with the Urban Forest Management Division about the County's cankerworm spray program.

Keith Cline announced the Urban Forester III position will be advertised on July 18, as a promotional opportunity, for a period of two weeks; finishing the urban forest management section of the EQAC Report, which he will forward to the Tree Commission once it is complete.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.