

## **TREE COMMISSION MINUTES**

*DRAFT*

**November 20, 2014**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sheila Allen, VA Cooperative Extension  
Jeanne Kadet, Braddock District  
Butch Loughry, Fairfax County Park Authority  
Jim McGlone, Vice Chair, VA Dept. of Forestry  
Chet McLaren, Member At-Large  
Dragan Momcilovic, Hunter Mill District  
Eleanor Quigley, Mt. Vernon District  
Robert Vickers, Chair, Dranesville District

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rick Ayers, Providence District  
Dean Dastvar, Springfield District  
Mekell Mikell, Lee District  
Scott Pearson, Mason District  
Jerry Peters, NV Soil & Water Conservation District  
Bill Schoonmaker, Sully District

**VACANT POSITIONS:** Environmental Quality Advisory Council

**STAFF PRESENT:** Keith Cline, Director, Urban Forest Management Division (UFMD)  
Hugh Whitehead, Urban Forester III, UFMD  
Charles Smith, Project Manager II, Stormwater Planning Division

**VISITORS:** Deana Crumbling  
Larry Zaragoza

### **Call to Order:**

Chairman Vickers called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

### **Minutes**

October minutes were reviewed and approved.

### **Presentations regarding UFMD's program to mitigate impacts to trees resulting from fall cankerworm feeding:**

Katherine Wychulis and Larry Cartwright, representing groups opposed to fall cankerworm spraying, made a presentation discussing their objections to spraying fall cankerworm. They discussed concerns with potential impacts of BTK (*Bacillus Thuringiensis Kurstaki*, material used in the spray program) to citizens of the County, migrating birds, and Lepidoptera species

Troy Shaw, Forest Pest Management Branch Chief, UFMD, presented the County's cankerworm spray program and how it was being conducted responsibly, using materials and methods to minimize any risk. Mr. Shaw countered specific objections of those in opposition to the program, providing clarification regarding information on which opposing groups based their objections.

Questions and dialogue followed the presentations with Tree Commissioner and visitor participation. There was a consensus among Tree Commissioners present that while there may be some environmental risks with spraying BTK, that greater impacts to forest health, and wildlife would result from discontinuing the spray program and risking the loss of significant areas of tree canopy. Tree Commissioners present voiced their support for the County's cankerworm spray program implemented by the Forest Pest Branch, UFMD.

**2014 Tree Conservation Awards Update:**

Hugh Whitehead updated the commission on the Tree Conservation Award nominations. There are seven nominations for awards (3 for tree preservation, 4 for tree planting). In addition, a site is nominated for recognition of their tree preservation work to date. It was requested that the December meeting be moved up to 12/9/14, to vote on the nominations and determine winners to facilitate preparation for the awards presentation ceremony on January 23, 2015. Tree Commissioners indicated that rescheduling the meeting would be acceptable, and asked Mr. Whitehead to coordinate a revised meeting date with Tree Commissioners proposing the recommended date of 12/9/14.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.