

TREE COMMISSION MINUTES

Draft

January 19, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jessica Bowser, Lee District
Karen Campblin, Sully District
Tom Fleury, Providence District
Rick Healy, Environmental Quality Advisory Council
Kevin Holland, Mason District
Jeanne Kadet, Braddock District
Chet McLaren, Member At-Large
Dragan Momcilovic, Hunter Mill District
Jerry Peters, NV Soil & Water Conservation District
John Stokely, Fairfax County Park Authority
Robert Vickers, Chairman, Dranesville District

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sheila Allen, VA Cooperative Extension
Rick Ayers, Springfield District
Cathy Ledec, Mt. Vernon District
Jim McGlone, Vice Chairman, VA Dept. of Forestry

VACANT POSITION:

STAFF PRESENT: Joan Allen, Urban Forester II, UFMD
Hugh Whitehead, Urban Forester III, UFMD

VISTORS PRESENT: Charles Smith, Project Coordinator, SWPD

Call to Order

Chairman Vickers called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm.

Minutes

The December minutes were reviewed and approved by the commission.

Celebrated Trees

There was a discussion from the commission on how to proceed with the Celebrated Trees program. Chairman Vickers suggested to put a focus on the “big tree category” to reduce the administrative workload. Commissioner Campblin suggested having an online submission form to make the application process easier. Questions were raised on the role of UFMD and other county staff and the MOU that was written at the inception of the program. Urban Forester Allen will email the MOU to the tree commission. There will be further discussion on this topic will be discussed at the next meeting.

Tree Preservation and Planting Awards

Commissioner Kadet and Campblin requested comments from the tree commission in the last meeting and received some good feedback. There was discussion on how to better promote the awards and how the award perception has changed over time. There will be future training provided by UFMD staff to explain the metrics of the award categories and tree preservation process.

Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2017

Page 2 of 2

Tree Action Plan

Urban Forester Whitehead has emailed a draft of the updated Tree Action Plan to the tree commission. The draft has already received comments from DPWES Public Information Officer, Matthew Kaiser, and the Tree Action Plan workgroup. Commissioners are encouraged to share the draft to their Board of Supervisors to create awareness and solicit comments.

Presentation/Discussion of stream restoration project

Commissioner Dragon presented stream restoration projects occurring in the Tyson Corner area as well as future Boone Blvd Expansion Project.

UFMD Report

Urban Forester Whitehead reported that Urban Forester Griesmer-Zakhar and Habig-Myers will be attending the Municipal Forestry Institute in February.

Commissioner Reports

- Chairman Vickers is willing and able to be the chair of the tree commission for 2017. Vice Chair McGlone will also remain in his position for 2017. The next elections will be held in December of 2017. He also spoke of a Gazette article on infill development in Drainesville. It has garnered lots of good community feedback. News articles like these can be a good educational opportunity for related topics.
- Commissioner Kadet requests the commission to save the date for the upcoming Fairfax Springfest at Sully Historic Park. The event will be held on April 29.
- Commissioner Bowser shared an invasive plant removal project in Kingstowne. More details to come at the next meeting.
- Commissioner Healy reported that EQAC has submitted their comments on the county's Environmental Vision document.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 pm.