

**ELECTRONIC MEETING
SCRIPT**

Fairfax County Tree Commission

July 16, 2020

From the Chairman:

To conduct this meeting wholly electronically and to effectuate both the emergency procedures authorized by FOIA, the Fairfax County Tree Commission to make certain findings and determinations for the record.

Audibility of Members' Voices

First, because each member of the Fairfax County Tree Commission is participating in this meeting from a separate location, we must verify that a quorum of members is participating, and that each member's voice is clear, audible, and at an appropriate volume for all of the other members. Accordingly, I am going to conduct a roll call, and ask each the Fairfax County Tree Commission member participating in this meeting to state your name and the location from which you are participating. I ask that each of you pay close attention to ensure that you can hear each of your colleagues. Following this roll call, we will vote to establish that every member can hear every other member.

See Attendance for Roll Call.

Virtual gavel passed to Vice-Chairman McGlone, so that Cathy Ledec may be heard making the requisite motion.

Cathy Ledec moved that each member's voice can be adequately heard by each other member of this the Fairfax County Tree Commission.

Motion Approved

Cory Suter seconded. Motioned Carried Unanimously.

Need for an Electronic Meeting

Second, having established that each member's voice may be heard by every other member, we must next establish the nature of the emergency that compels these emergency procedures, the fact that we are meeting electronically, what type of electronic communication is being used, and how we have arranged for public access to this meeting.

Therefore, Cathy Ledec moved that the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic makes it unsafe for the Fairfax County Tree Commission to physically assemble and unsafe for the public to physically attend any such meeting, and that as such, FOIA's usual procedures, which require the physical assembly of the Fairfax County Tree Commission and the physical presence of the public, cannot be implemented safely or practically. Cathy Ledec further moved that the Fairfax County Tree Commission may conduct this meeting electronically through a dedicated audio conferencing line, and that the public may access this meeting by calling 1 877-336-1829 Participant Access Code: 7703575. It is so moved.

Laura Beaty seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Need to dispense with FOIA's Usual Procedures to Assure Continuity in Government/Continue Operations

Finally, it is next required that all of the matters addressed on today's agenda must address the Emergency itself, are necessary for continuity in Fairfax County government, and/or are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and the discharge of the Fairfax County Tree Commission lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities. It is so moved.

John Burke seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**Fairfax County Tree Commission
Electronic Meeting Format
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 16, 2020- 2:05pm-4:10pm**

**Toll Free Call in 1 877-336-1829
Participant Access Code 7703575**

PRESENT:

Catherine Ledec, Chair Mt. Vernon District – Alexandria, VA
Jim McGlone, Vice-Chair, VA Dept. of Forestry – Franconia, VA
Laura Beaty, Providence District – Fairfax, Virginia
Rick Healy, Environmental Quality Advisory Council – Annandale, VA
Jerry Peters, NV Soil & Water Conservation District – Great Falls, VA
Monica Billger, At-Large - Alexandria, VA
Robert Vickers, Dranesville District - Great Falls, VA
Jessica Bowser, Lee District – Alexandria, VA
Karen Campblin, Sully District – Fairfax, VA
Cory Suter, Springfield District – Fairfax, VA
Jeanne Kadet, Braddock District
John Burke, Fairfax County Park Authority
Brenda Frank, VA Cooperative Extension

ABSENT:

Kevin Holland, Mason District – Falls Church
Vacant-Hunter Mill District

OTHERS:

Linda Barfield, Urban Forester II, UFMD – Lorton, VA
Brian Keightley, Director UFMD – Fairfax Station, VA
John Friedman - Site Code and Development Branch, LDS – Clifton, VA
Brandy Mueller, LDS-Code Specialist
Charles Smith, Branch Chief-DPWES-Stormwater Planning

Chair Ledec called the monthly meeting of the Fairfax County Tree Commission to order at 2:05p.m. on July 16, 2020 via Electronic Meeting.

Public Comment:

Avi Sareen, ISA Certified Arborist expressed concern with RPA planting densities proposed and the cost to implement for residents, citing the One Fairfax policy.

Update on Resource Protection Area replanting requirement edits

RPA replanting requirements draft language briefing provided by John Friedman. Referred to Page 1 paragraph F required density related to 10-year tree canopy credits and 4 trophic layers. State guidance Riparian Buffer Manual results in cost savings to the public in terms of reducing

shrub quantities, see page 4, of draft language. Additional information will be available on the Chesapeake Bay ordinance website, currently in construction. The Planning Commission directed County staff to use density survivability data collected from stream restoration projects. Charles Smith discussed the challenges on Stormwater improvement projects to establish the shrub layer due to invasive plants, deer browse and human impacts. He also mentioned that Stormwater Planning/MSMD inspections and maintenance conduct Spring qualitative walks for County Stormwater projects on County property or within easements and provides corrective maintenance actions in the Fall. Brandy Mueller discussed importance of the control of planting times to Spring and Fall and WQIA violations and code compliance issues. A request for feedback will be coordinated.

Approval of Minutes

Motioned for approval of the June 2020 as amended meeting minutes. All were in favor. Motion carried for approval of the June 2020 amended meeting minutes.

Bob Vickers motioned for approval, Jim McGlone Seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Green Initiative 5a-Report Back to Board of Supervisors

A discussion was had about Tree Planting charette success as first meeting of community of practice and report could serve as TAP yearly plan for 2020. Report completion and response proposed for October 2020 at the BOS environmental committee meeting. Jerry Peters and Jim McGlone were thanked for working on draft language. Final review comments proposed for August 15. Brian Keightley asked to send a reminder of deadline for comments to Tree Commissioners.

2020 Friends of Trees Awards

A motioned to extend deadline for nominations to July 31. Discussion on nominations received.

Brenda Frank motioned for approval, Bob Vickers Seconded; motion carried unanimously.

A motioned for Jeanne Kadet to draft letter to one of the nominees about Bradford pear trees.

Bob Vickers motioned for approval, Cory Suter Seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

August meeting was discussed. Brian Keightley asked to send a straw poll with possible dates.

UFMD Directors Update

- UFMD Herrity building office accepting public walk ins from 9:00 to noon-Monday thru Friday. UFMD staff will continue in maximum practicable telework and provide assistance from a distance.
- Tree Preservation Target deviations and limitations within enabling legislation.
- Tree Commission Charter relocated to Chapter 122.
- In process of upgrading our land development and customer relations database
- July 30- DOF hosting a meeting regarding tree legislation.

Announcements

Brenda Frank reported about red crossbill breeding and pine cone production. Spotted Lanternfly joint webinar hosted by UFMD and Cooperative Extension slated for July 17 @2:30.

John Burke discussed partnership with Operation Stream Shield, Park Authority invasive plant management efforts and training and discovery of Grasshopper sparrow in Elk Lick.

Monica Billger discussed online educational resources for stay at home students and possible worksheet on parts of tree. Referred to DOF website.

Charles Smith discussed a study to measure tree mortality being conducted by Stormwater Planning staff Alex Darr, results pending. Also discussed a partnership with Gunston Hall.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 4:10 was made by Bob Vickers, Jim McGlone seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**Fairfax County Tree Commission e-Reports
June 2020**

Monica Billger At Large	<i>No report</i>
Jeanne Kadet Braddock District	<i>No report</i>
Robert Vickers Dranesville District	<i>No report</i>
<i>vacant</i> Hunter Mill District	<i>No report</i>
Jessica Bowser Lee District	<i>No report</i>
Catherine C. Ledec (Chair) Mount Vernon District	<i>No report</i>
Laura Beaty Providence	<i>No report</i>
Corey Suter Springfield District	<i>No report</i>
Karen Campblin Sully District	<i>No report</i>
Kevin Holland Mason District	<i>No report</i>
Jim McGlone (Vice-Chair) VA Department of Forestry	The Virginia Department of Forestry has regulated 2 small lot logging jobs this year. Logs from these jobs were sent to commercial mills. Diverting urban wood to more productive uses than landfills and firewood has been a goal of the Department for several years and this marks the first time an operator has come to Fairfax County to work on tracts less than 10 acres.
Richard (Rick) Healy EQAC	<i>No report</i>
John Stokely Park Authority	<i>No report</i>
Jerry Peters NVSWCD	<i>No report</i>
Brenda Frank Virginia Cooperative Extension	<i>No report</i>