

# **ELECTRONIC MEETING SCRIPT**

## **Fairfax County Tree Commission**

**October 15, 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 Bob Vickers in absence of 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.

***Second-Bob Vickers. Non opposed. Motion Carried.***

### **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, I move 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. I further move 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 1-888-270-9936 Conference Code: 224765. It is so moved.

*Cory Suter Seconds motion. Non opposed. Motion Carried.*

**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.

*Second Bob Vickers. Non opposed. Motion Carried.*

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**Fairfax County Tree Commission**  
**Electronic Meeting Format**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, October 15, 2020- 2:03pm-4:31pm**

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

**PRESENT:**

Catherine Ledec, Chair Mt. Vernon District – Alexandria, 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  
Karen Campblin, Sully District – Fairfax, VA  
Cory Suter, Springfield District – Fairfax, VA  
Jeanne Kadet, Braddock District- Annandale, VA  
John Burke, Fairfax County Park Authority- Arlington, VA  
Brenda Frank, VA Cooperative Extension- Mclean, VA

**ABSENT:**

Vacant-Hunter Mill District  
Jim McGlone, Vice-Chair, VA Dept. of Forestry  
Jessica Bowser, Lee District  
Kevin Holland, Mason District

**OTHERS:**

Brian Keightley, Director UFMD – Fairfax Station, VA  
Hugh Whitehead, Urban Forester III, UFMD, Lovettsville, VA  
Tiffany Thrasher, Administrative Assistant, UFMD-Culpeper, VA  
Judy Pedersen, FCPA  
Hannah Kras, FCPA  
Ryan Stewart, FCPA  
Paul Shirey, FCPA

**GUESTS:**

Cindy Speas, Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions, Falls Church, VA  
Bret Lesley, Fairfax County Resident, Vienna, VA

Chair Ledec called the monthly meeting of the Fairfax County Tree Commission to order at 2:05p.m. on October 15, 2020 via Electronic Meeting.

**Public Comment: Introduction of guest who stated were there to listen in. No other comments offered.**

### **Review and Approval of September Minutes**

Some minor revisions were suggested. Motioned for approval of the September 2020 as amended meeting minutes. All were in favor. Motion carried for approval of the September 2020 amended meeting minutes.

***Motion for approval made by Cory Sutor. Second by Bob Vickers. Motion Carried***

### **Tree Commission Awards Programs-Discussion**

Award Criteria for Friends of Trees (FOT) and Tree Preservation and Planting (TPPA) awards. Concerns raised to Chair Ledec regarding for profit company's associated with development projects. Criteria is located on the Tree Commission webpage (shown during discussion by Brian Keightley). Discussion regarding keeping the two awards separate. Discussion about having FOT award for Industry and FOT for Volunteers/Citizens. Discussion to change/update eligibility criteria for FOT awards. Commissioners Monica Billger and Brenda Frank will revisit the language on the tree commission webpage regarding the eligibility criteria and will report on the matter in the November meeting.

***Motion to move nomination for Basheer & Edgemoore to Tree Preservation & Planting Award from Friends of Trees Awards.***

***None Opposed. Motion Carried.***

### **Other Business**

- Jerry Peters-where are we with the Green Initiatives Report. Brian working on Green Initiatives Report to present to the environmental committee and the Board of Supervisors.
- Bob Vickers-Worried about developers removing mass amounts of trees in the Dranesville area. How can we approach developers to leave some trees behind.
  - Brian Keightley recommends that Citizens should comment on projects through the Environmental Committee on the Fairfax County Planning Commission.

- Cory Sutor-Fairfax Food Council member, inviting everyone to participate in a Town Hall Meeting with Supervisors and other elected officials October 21, 2020 speaking about urban agriculture.
- Monica Billger- Fairfax Federation of Citizens Association legislative packet-creating a tree canopy goal. Public comment for proposed use of Lorton Landfill site for indoor ski resort until November 17, 2020.

**UFMD Directors Update**

- Several BOS Supervisors office staff have contacted UFMD regarding Dominion Energy trimming along tree lines-practices in which their contract company, Asplundh is using and what is being done with the debris during routine maintenance. Contractor will not remove the trucks of trees left behind when trees are removed. However, they will remove branches and small debris;
- Improving the discussion with Department of Planning and Development (DPD) regarding streetscape and street trees in regard to tree size, soil volume , bioretention, tree credits, landscape plan review, and canopy;
- Green Initiatives Report almost complete for the BOS;
- Surge in Infill Lot development applications for review;
- Bioblitz- iNaturalist app on devices;
- Undergrounding of utilities in Fairfax County on the Route 1 Corridor discussed at the EQAC meeting

**Commissioner Activities and Comments on e-reports**

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

Monica Billger <b>At Large</b>	<i>No report</i>
Jeanne Kadet <b>Braddock District</b>	<i>A tree give away to honor lives lost to Covid 19 in our community, is scheduled for October 24, at George Mason University parking lot P. This event is being coordinated by Noreen Wise, a Braddock District resident, who has been inspired to plant more trees in Fairfax County. A Tree Basics booklet will be given to each tree recipient.</i>
Bob Vickers <b>Dranesville District</b>	<i>No report</i>
<i>vacant</i> <b>Hunter Mill District</b>	<i>No report</i>
Jessica Bowser	<i>No report</i>

<b>Lee District</b>	
Catherine C. Ledec (Chair) <b>Mount Vernon District</b>	<i>No report</i>
Laura Beaty <b>Providence</b>	<p><i>Oct. 10 - I joined volunteers at the Providence Community Center to plant eight large trees on the grounds of the Center. Supervisor Palchik and many from her staff joined the volunteers as Hugh Whitehead of the Fairfax County Urban Forest Management Div. orchestrated the planting of trees, supporting the county's Green Initiative and the Tree Action Plan. In little more than 2 1/2 hours the job was done. The plantings were in accordance with the guidelines of the Fairfax County Tree Basics booklet.</i></p> <p><i>—Oct. 10 - I joined a dozen volunteers at Blake Lane Park in the afternoon to plant 40 small native trees and 80 native perennials. During the last couple of months I've been joining the volunteer crew to remove invasive plants from the site in preparation for this planting. Work continues each week to remove invasive plants, particularly vines that have grown high into the trees. This is a slow, but steady effort on the part of the volunteers, many of whom live nearby and enjoy this, their neighborhood park. Work remains ongoing.</i></p>
Cory Suter <b>Springfield District</b>	<p><i>Future of Urban Ag Town Hall event October 21,2020</i>  <a href="http://arlington.ext.vt.edu/programs/urbanag.html">http://arlington.ext.vt.edu/programs/urbanag.html</a></p>
Karen Campblin <b>Sully District</b>	<i>No report</i>
Kevin Holland <b>Mason District</b>	<i>No report</i>
Jim McGlone (Vice-Chair) <b>VA Department of Forestry</b>	<i>No Reports</i>
Richard (Rick) Healy <b>EQAC</b>	<i>No report</i>
John Burke <b>Park Authority</b>	<p><i>FCCA first controlled meadow burn happening today-Oct 15; FCCA conversations with Dominion Reps to walk powerline easements and discuss protection of tree lines in Park properties where powerline easements are located. Invasive plant control-including Wisteria removal at Lake Accotink Park</i></p>
Jerry Peters <b>NVSWCD</b>	<i>No report</i>
Brenda Frank <b>Virginia Cooperative Extension</b>	<i>No report</i>

**Fairfax County Park Authority (FCCA) Bond Presentation**

Presentation provided by Judy Pedersen, Hannah Kras, Paul Shirey, and Ryan Stewart. FCPA park bond for November 3<sup>rd</sup> election referendum. If approved the bond will provide \$100m to FCPA. Bond is used for capital improvements based on needs assessments completed every 10 years.

**Adjourn**

*Motion to adjourn at **4:01p***