

ELECTRONIC MEETING SCRIPT

Fairfax County Tree Commission

November 19, 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. This is a bit cumbersome, so I ask you in advance for your patience.

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 below

At this point, I will pass the virtual gavel to the Vice-Chairman, so that I may be heard to make the requisite motion.

I move that each member's voice may be adequately heard by each other member of this the Fairfax County Tree Commission.

McGlone & Vickers second, None 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 this 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.

Multiple Voices Second the Motion, None 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.

Vickers seconds. None Opposed. Motion Carried

Fairfax County Tree Commission
Electronic Meeting Format
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 19, 2020 2:02pm-
Toll Free Call in 1 888-270-9936
Participant Access Code 224765

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 – Lee District, VA
Robert Vickers, Dranesville District - Great Falls, VA
Cory Suter, Springfield District – Fairfax, VA
Jeanne Kadet, Braddock District- Annandale, VA
Jim McGlone, Vice-Chair, VA Dept. of Forestry-Rose Hill, VA
Bret Leslie, Hunter Mill District, Vienna, VA
Kevin Holland, Mason District, Falls Church, VA

ABSENT:

Jessica Bowser, Lee District
Karen Campblin, Sully District
John Burke, Fairfax County Park Authority
Brenda Frank, VA Cooperative Extension

OTHERS:

Brian Keightley, Director UFMD – Fairfax Station, VA
Tiffany Thrasher, Administrative Assistant, UFMD-Culpeper, VA

GUESTS:

Cindy Speas, Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions, Falls Church, VA

Call to Order

Chairwoman Ledec called the monthly meeting of the Fairfax County Tree Commission to order at 2:05p.m. on November 19, 2020 via Electronic Meeting.

Public Comment

Cindy Speas, Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions, Falls Church, VA

Expressed gratitude to Fairfax County Tree Commission efforts. Discussion about Joint Environmental Taskforce (JET). Requesting Commission to ask for Land Use to be reinstated in the final report of the JET.

Cathy Ledec-New Tree Commissioner Introduction

Introduction of Bret Leslie, newly commissioned Tree Commissioner for the Hunter Mill District.

Overview of Urban Forest Management Division

Brian Keightley, Director, Urban Forest Management Division

Distribution of Tree Commissioner binders that outline Urban Forest Management overview to new commissioners and commissioners that do not have one.

PowerPoint presentation of an overview of Urban Forest Management Division:

- Programs, Services, Funding Sources, Forest Pest/Forest Conservation, Land Development Services support, Staffing etc.

Further discussion regarding Community of Practice meeting (held in March 2020), green roof planting/legislation, tree canopy requirements, Green Roof/solar panels and trees. Discussion of a Green Roof talk by Commissioner Suter in a future meeting.

Tree Planting and Preservation Awards

Discussion on nomination for Tree Planting award for 1721 Irvin Street.

Commissioner Vickers motions to approve the nomination for 1721 Irvin Street for a 2020 Tree Planting Award. Commissioner Lesley seconds the motion. None opposed, Motion Carried.

Discussion regarding Commissioner Billger and Commissioner Frank's recommendations for eligibility for Tree Planting and Preservation awards. Planning to present options in December.

Recommendations of the Joint Environmental Taskforce (JET)

Discussion about the lack of discussion about trees in the JET and the importance of trees- environmental, value, public health, etc.

Chairwoman Ledec opens the floor for comment.

Commissioner Vickers motion to draft letter to Fairfax County Board of Supervisors regarding disappointment for JET to be presented in December's meeting.

Commissioner Beatty seconds motion. None opposed. Motion Carried

Nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair of the Tree Commission

Discussion for nominations

Chairwoman Ledec and Vice Chair McGlone agree to serve again if nominated. Appointment of Nominating Committee.

Chairwoman Ledec Motion to appoint Commissioner Vickers to be the point of contact nomination committee. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

Other Business

Commissioner Suter

Expresses excitement to attend Oak Decline Talk presented by Vice Chairman McGlone and UFMD Staff. Assisting with future planting projects in Gum Springs.

Commissioner Lesley

Further discussion about concerns about JET. Chairwoman Ledec to discuss CECAP agenda with Commissioner Lesley.

Brian Keightley

Further discussion to clarify the working process for JET. Tree Canopy Analysis delayed because of issues in imagery procurement process.

Vice Chairman McGlone

Tree Commissioner binder documents.

UFMD Director's Report

Discussion about EQAC presentation in November by Department of Management and Budget. UFMD do not see any foreseeable financial cuts for Urban Forest Management Division.

Oak Decline Presentation by Extension and Urban Forest Management Division Staff.

After slight decline in numbers in March and April there has been an uptick in infill development requests.

Commissioner Activities and Comments on e-reports

None

Announcements

Monica Billger- Announcement that Chairwoman Ledec will be receiving a Park Authority Board award for her work in the parks

Adjourn

*Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Vickers, Second by Commissioner Billger.
None Opposed. Motion Carried*