

Fairfax County Tree Commission
Electronic Meeting Format
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2021
Toll Free Call in 1 888-270-9936
Participant Access Code 224765

Call to Order

Chairwoman Ledec called the monthly meeting of the Fairfax County Tree Commission to order at 2:03p.m. on January 21, 2021 via Electronic Meeting.

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. It 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 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.

At this point, I will pass the virtual gavel to Commissioner Kadet, 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.

Commissioner Leslie Seconds, None Opposed. Commissioner McGlone, Motion carries

Fairfax County Tree Commission
Electronic Meeting Format
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2021
Toll Free Call in 1 888-270-9936
Participant Access Code 224765

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.

Commissioner Peters Seconds, None Opposed. Commissioner McGlone, Motion carries

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

Finally, it is next required that all 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.

Commissioner Vickers Seconds, None Opposed. Commissioner McGlone, Motion carries

**Fairfax County Tree Commission
Electronic Meeting Format
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2021
Toll Free Call in 1 888-270-9936
Participant Access Code 224765**

PRESENT:

Catherine Ledec, Chair Mt. Vernon District – Alexandria, VA
Jim McGlone, Vice-Chair, VA Dept. of Forestry-Franconia, VA
Jeanne Kadet, Braddock District- Annandale, VA
Robert Vickers, Dranesville District - Great Falls, VA
Bret Leslie, Hunter Mill District, Vienna, VA
Kevin Holland, Mason District, Falls Church, VA
Laura Beaty, Providence District, Fairfax, VA
Rick Healy, Environmental Quality Advisory Council – Annandale, VA
John Burke, Fairfax County Park Authority, Arlington, VA
Jerry Peters, NV Soil & Water Conservation District, Great Falls, VA
Brenda Frank, VA Cooperative Extension, Mclean, VA
Jessica Bowser, Lee District, Alexandria, VA

ABSENT:

Monica Billger, At-Large – Alexandria, VA
Cory Suter, Springfield District – Fairfax Station, VA
Karen Campblin, Sully District

OTHERS:

Brian Keightley, Director, UFMD – Fairfax Station, VA
Tiffany Thrasher, UFMD-Culpeper, VA
Hugh Whitehead, UFMD-Lovettsville, VA

GUESTS:

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

Fairfax County Tree Commission
Electronic Meeting Format
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2021
Toll Free Call in 1 888-270-9936
Participant Access Code 224765

Public Comment

No Public Comment.

Approval of December Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Ledec-Approval of December Tree Commission minutes.
Motion to Approve with amendments

Commissioner Leslie, Second Commissioner Frank. None opposed. Motion to approve December minutes carries.

Move of the Tree Commission Charter – Brian Keightley, UFMD Director

Update and discussion about changes in the Tree Commission Charter and updating the Zoning Ordinance to move the Charter to Chapter 122.

Commissioner Ledec motions to prepare a letter of support for the movement and the changes discussed.

Commissioner Peters. Commissioner Healy Seconds. None opposed. Motion to move forward carries.

Community of Practice Meeting Planning – Discussion

Discussion on a realistic goal for Community of Practice meeting in March 2021 (virtual). Agenda and invitation list needs to be drafted with goals in mind.

Annual Tree Commission Report FY21 – Discussion

Discussion on a starting point for putting together the Tree Commissions Annual report for FY21 (including TAP & Green Initiatives) and it can feed into the EQAC fiscal year report. EQAC report goes to the board in November/December.

Fairfax County Tree Commission
Electronic Meeting Format
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2021
Toll Free Call in 1 888-270-9936
Participant Access Code 224765

Other Business

- Commissioner Vickers-Point of Contact in UFMD to discuss commissioner district specific questions.
- Commissioners and Staff Discussion regarding Tree Commission Charter.

UFMD Director's Report-Brian Keightley

UFMD Staff commenting on an environmental assessment being done at Dulles Airport in Loudon County. UFMD commenting on the plan to put solar panels where there are existing forests.

Process of Tree planting standards in urban areas; working with other area jurisdictions for street tree specification innovations.

Virginia Legislative Bills

DPWES Position Vacancy Rate-Resource issues

UFMD & COVID Vaccine-Where we are in line.

Invasive Species Study

Tree Preservation Tech Bulletin distribution on Jan 6th, 2021.

Announcement of UFMD's Craig Herwig's retirement in June 2021.

Commissioner Activities and Comments on e-reports

Commissioner McGlone-Mid Atlantic Horticulture Short Course Attendance; Zoom Presentation on tree plantings for Plant NOVA Natives; VDOF Proposals for VA Trees for Clean water grant applications.

Commissioner Burke-The Grange old oaks; Successful prescribed burn at Riverbend; UFMD & FCPA MO to streamline processes between the two business areas.

Commissioner Vickers-VA Big Tree Database (Vtech-Eric Wiseman) hit an all-time high of Big Tree Nominations during the COVID pandemic

Chair Ledec-Encourage everyone to watch General Assembly (Senate Bill 1249).

**Fairfax County Tree Commission
Electronic Meeting Format
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2021
Toll Free Call in 1 888-270-9936
Participant Access Code 224765**

Commissioner Frank-Master Gardener Classes are virtual as well as Plant Clinics.

Commissioner Kadet-Expanding our support of other plantings (Shrubs, etc.) in Urban areas for communities that are not comfortable with caring for trees.

Adjourn

Commissioner Ledec Calls meeting adjournment at 3:59pm

DRAFT