

Fairfax County Tree Commission
Electronic Meeting Format
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 15, 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 April 15, 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's 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 Roll Call 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.

Commissioner McGlone- Commissioner Vickers Seconds motion, none opposed, motion carries.

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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 McGlone, Commissioner Leslie seconds, None Opposed, Motion Carries

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.

Commissioner McGlone, Commissioner Vickers Second, Non Opposed, Motion Carries

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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
Jessica Bowser, Lee District, Alexandria, VA
Laura Beaty, Providence District, Fairfax, VA
Cory Suter, Springfield District, Fairfax, VA
Karen Campblin, Sully District, Fairfax, VA
Rick Healy, Environmental Quality Advisory Council – Annandale, VA
John Burke, Fairfax County Park Authority, Arlington, VA
Brenda Frank, VA Cooperative Extension, Mclean, VA
Jerry Peters, NV Soil & Water Conservation District, Great Falls, VA

ABSENT:

Kevin Holland, Mason District, Falls Church, VA

OTHERS:

Brian Keightley, Director, Urban Forest Management Division – Fairfax Station,
VA
Tiffany Thrasher, Administrative, Urban Forest Management Division -Culpeper,
VA
Jerry Stonefield, Land Development Services, Fairfax, VA
John Friedman, Land Development Services, Fairfax, VA

GUESTS:

None.

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Public Comment:

None.

Approval of March Minutes

Discussion regarding March meeting minutes, as amended.

Commissioner Vickers, Commissioner Beaty Second, Non Opposed, Motion Carries

CBPA Regulation Changes-Mature Trees-Brian Keightley & Jerry Stonefield

Brief presentation of what was presented regarding the proposed CBAY amendment-Mature Trees Amendment at the EQAC meeting on April 14, 2021. Discussion on what criteria should be used to define 'Mature Tree'. Discussion about the Tree Commission's letter in support of the proposed amendments to the CBAY to the Board of Supervisor.

Commissioner Ledec motions to approve and send the letter to the Board of Supervisors. None opposed, Motion Carries

2021 Annual Report-Writing Assignments

Assignments to commissioners based on the Annual report outline-presented in the meeting. Call for commissioners to choose a section(s) of the annual report that are interesting to them and that they would like to work on to be included in the 2021 Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors. Discussion of the time period in which the commissioners will be reporting on-fiscal or calendar year.

Community of Practice Meeting Planning-Discussion (continued from March)

Commissioner McGlone requests that Acadia Farms to be added on the Community of Practice group. Discussion continues regarding meeting agenda. Possibility of having break out sessions, participation in games/quizzes, why do we have a community of practice, OneFairfax, Tree Action Plan goals and objectives, My Tree Count/iTree Landscape, etc.

Summary of the Survey that was sent out to past participants with questions regarding date/time/challenges.

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Other Business

Commissioner McGlone

Spotted Lantern Fly in Prince William County, Trees Virginia Roundtable 4/15- featuring Eric Day from VA Tech.

Commissioner Ledec

Question to Commissioner to revert to the previous meeting time (evenings) instead of the current time at 2pm-4pm. Propose to move the meetings to later in the evenings. Requesting feedback from other commissioners for opinions. Continue the conversation in the May meeting.

UFMD Director's Report-Brian Keightley

OneFairfax-Equity Office to present to the BAC's (video & acknowledgment).

Earth Day/Arbor Day Proclamation approval from Chairman's office.

VA Tech-DEQ Bioretention specs review.

Casey Trees pilot project-Outreach campaign, fall and early spring planting for 150 trees.

School Tree plantings continue with Hugh Whitehead.

Beginning to work with Dept. of Planning and Development specifications for urban design guidelines for urban tree plantings.

Commissioner Activities & Comments on e-reports

Commissioner Peters

Working with FCPA on The Grange project in Great Falls.

Commissioner Burke

Additional comments about the project at The Grange, FCPA will receive surplus trees left from the NVSWCD seedling sale

Adjournment

409pm

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E-Reports

Commissioner Beaty

Gave a nature program for an Alexandria condo whose residents take pride in their surrounding forest and the native plants that grow there. Last year they planted 50 new trees on Earth Day - they were surprised to learn about the damage “volcano mulching” causes trees. I showed them the after affect of the practice and sent them a link to the "Fairfax County Tree Basics” booklet. They are taking action with their maintenance crew of stop the practice. The Virginia Native Plant Society—Powtomack Chpt. opened their propagation beds for the season on April 7. All the small tree seedlings are offered under the program - "Plant a Tree for Free”.