

Fairfax County Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: Monica Billger, At-Large
Jeanne Kadet, Braddock District
Jim McGlone, Vice Chair, VA Dept. of Forestry
John Stokely, Fairfax County Park Authority
Catherine C. Ledec, Mt. Vernon District
Rick Healy, Environmental Quality Advisory Council
Jessica M. Bowser, Lee District

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Vickers, Chair, Dranesville District
Dragan Momcilovic, Hunter Mill District
Karen Campblin, Sully District
Kevin Holland, Mason District
Rick Ayers, Springfield District
Jerry Peters, NV Soil & Water Conservation District

STAFF PRESENT: Keith Cline, Director UFMD
Tom French, Urban Forester II, UFMD

Call to Order

Jim McGlone called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm.

Minutes

The June 2018 minutes were reviewed and approved with minor grammar edits under Legislative Initiatives.

Tree Conservation Awards / Friends of Trees Nominations

Catherine Ledec deferred the Tree Action Plan Update to discuss the friends of tree nominations. The awards presentation is scheduled for October 23 at 7:00 pm in the BOS Auditorium. , Director Keith Cline recommended the awards be titled and reported as The 2018 Awards as the Friends of Trees and The Tree Conservation Awards have been combined, in addition to recommending the tree commission consider nominating 4-5 awards winners for this year. It was agreed that the commission circulate the nominations by Sept. 1 and the tree commission vote on the award winners by Sept 20, thereby allotting enough time for making the awards poster announcing the winners prior to the October 23 awards presentation.

Legislative Initiatives

Catherine Ledec presented a draft letter on a tree commission legislative working group for current year legislative proposals to the BOS concerning tree-related legislation and to review tree related legislation or to propose new ideas. Land disturbing activity as defined by VA state law was also discussed and how this activity is related to tree preservation regulation.

Tree Action Plan Update

Catherine Ledec presented a proposed resolution for consideration by the tree commission referencing Fairfax County urban design guidelines should prioritize native tree species. The tree commission unanimously adopted the resolution.

A chart referencing trees that had been nominated for celebrated trees was presented in regards to updating the list with a current status of the trees.

Tree Conservation Awards

An outline for a brochure referencing tree preservation and planting awards was presented by Catherine Ledec as an example that could be presented to developers when they submit their development plans to the County as a way to get the word out about the awards program and as an incentive to nominate projects for awards. Keith Cline recommended the awards brochure go thru the County Public Works communications specialist, Irene Haske for design and presentation on the Fairfax County website. Keith will be asking Irene to create a design awards brochure for the program.

Director Cline reported that the awards nominations forms are available online that can be linked to under the trees section of Public Works website.

UFMD Report – Keith Cline

Director Cline reported that interviews for the County Urban Forester III position will be taking place next month and the interview panel has been assembled.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm.