



Tuesday, March 10, 2020, 9:00 am

Green Committee – Minutes

City Hall, Room 214

Meeting called to order by Holly Chichester, acting chair, at 9:00 am.

Green Committee Members present: Christien Conniff, Jason Coiner, Carolyn Helfrich, Anne Little, Carl Little, Adam Lynch, Erik Nelson, and Frank Widic.

- **Introduction** – Guests and new members: None
- **Approve February 11, 2020 Minutes:**
 - Minutes were approved as corrected.
- **Public Comments:**
 - None
- **Baseball Stadium Design Update:**
 - Holly Chichester and Anne Little will be meeting with Marne Sherman of the City staff on Thursday, March 12, to discuss changes in tree species and plans for the upcoming planting of the stadium area.
 - Planting days are still planned for April 4th and 25th. Volunteers with the Ceili Leahy Day of Service will be planting on April 4th. Volunteers from the public or other interested groups will be solicited for the April 25th planting. Detailed coordination is ongoing for preparing the planting area, bringing in the trees, etc.
- **Pumphouse Project Update:**
 - Anne Little has an application for a possible grant to fund the planting desired for this project.
- **Parks, Recreation and Events Update** – Aaron Simmons (not present):
 - We are continuing to use youths doing community service for the court system to mulch trees in the parks. Tree Fredericksburg Tree Stewards are assisting with monitoring and guiding their assistance. The next mulching will be done at Maury Playground on March 18th.
 - The ongoing Tree Steward training class will be pruning trees at Dixon Park on Saturday, March 14th, under the tutelage of Jason Coiner of Bartlett Tree Experts.
- **Tree Fredericksburg Update** – Carl Little
 - Plantings this spring include the new baseball stadium, Idlewild Section 2, and replacement trees scattered around town.
 - We experienced some tree vandalism along Hospital Drive on Sunday night, March 8th. During the night someone pulled seven young trees out of the ground, pushed several trees over, and pushed a number of tree stakes over. We were able to replant and water the uprooted trees

first thing Monday morning. We will watch these trees over the next month or two to see if they recover.

- Tree Fredericksburg with Bartlett Tree Experts and the Friends of the Rappahannock will be conducting a tree giveaway during the Earth Day event at Old Mill Park on April 18th. One thousand one-gallon trees will be given away.
- **City Updates** – Diane Beyer (not present):
 - None
- **UMW Update** – Holly Chichester:
 - UMW Earth Day events are scheduled throughout the week of April 20th. UMW Arbor Day Celebration will be on April 21st, and the Sustainability Earth Day Festival is on April 22nd.
- **Tree Steward Update** – Christien Conniff:
 - The current Tree Steward training program is finishing up. Classroom sessions are complete. A pruning training was held on March 7th, and a second will occur on March 14th at Dixon Park. A tree identification session will be held in May. Upon completion all new stewards will be issued an identification badge authorizing them to help maintain the City trees.
 - A volunteer time tracking phone application, Track It Forward, has been set up for all of the stewards to log their volunteer hours with their phones. The data will be captured and consolidated at Tree Fredericksburg and reported to the City and elsewhere as needed.
- **Friends of the Rappahannock** – Adam Lynch:
 - FOR and Tree Fredericksburg are pursuing an effort to mitigate stormwater problem in the Braehead Woods and Morningside housing development areas. This includes planting of new trees, installation of rain barrels, and rain gardens.
 - FOR has a number of events coming up. These are listed on the FOR website events section.
 - FOR is conducting a tree sapling planting (750 saplings) in the Willow Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22405 area on Friday March 13th.
 - The annual Wild and Scenic Film Festival will be held on Sunday, March 22nd. There is an oyster feast associated with this event for which people can also sign up.
- **Member Comments:**
 - Anne Little – On March 23rd Anne Little (Tree Fredericksburg), Bryan Hoffman (FOR), and Jason Coiner (Bartlett Tree Experts) will be interviewed on the Ted Schubel Town Talk radio show. The subject will be trees, tree giveaway, and related subjects.
 - Anne Little – Green Drinks will be meeting at the Tapa Rio Riverside restaurant at 6:00pm.
 - Anne Little – At the May 27th meeting of Trees Virginia they will conduct a tree canopy summit meeting addressing potential state legislation on canopy requirements for construction projects.
 - Carolyn Helfrich – The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club is developing a brochure to highlight various gardens in the Fredericksburg area that visitors may want to visit.

- **Upcoming Events:**
 - April 4 & 25 – Tree planting at Fred Nats baseball park
 - April 8 – Garden Club Arbor Day ceremony at Kenmore at 10 am
 - April 18 – City of Fredericksburg Earth Day – 11 am-4 pm 1,000 Trees Giveaway at Old Mill Park
 - April 21 – UMW Arbor Day Celebration, “Plant-a-Tree” Tuesday, 3:30 pm, Location TBD
 - April 22 – UMW Sustainability Earth Day Festival, Ball Circle 3-6 pm
- **Next Meeting** – Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 9 am
- Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am.