



Tuesday, October 13, 2020, 9:00 am

Green Committee – Minutes

Online *GoTo-Meeting*

Reading of electronic *GoTo-Meeting* city compliance statement.

Meeting called to order by Frank Widic, Acting Chair, at 9:01 am. Subsequently taken over by Holly Chichester, Chair, upon arrival.

Green Committee Members Present: Holly Chichester, Christien Conniff, Lisa Durham, John Eastman, Steve Gaske, Carolyn Helfrich, Adam Lynch, Anne Little, Carl Little, Erik Nelson, Jason Ogle, Michael Roberson, Aaron Simmons, and Frank Widic.

- **Introduction** – Guests and new members: None
- **Approve September 10, 2020 Minutes:**
 - Minutes were approved as presented.
- **Public Comments:**
 - None
- **Baseball Stadium Design Update** – Anne Little:
 - Fluid process. Limited funds. Only planting the trees this Fall during October and November.
 - How to water is still being investigated.
 - The shrubs will be put in later, probably during spring 2021.
 - We have suggested that they just mulch the shrub areas for now to make them look neat.
 - Some of the trees will have to be moved around a bit to be sure they don't conflict with the parking lot lights which each have solar panels to run them.
- **Parks, Recreation and Events Update** – Aaron Simmons:
 - Maury Playground and Washington Avenue mall have recently been mulched by volunteers led by *Tree Fredericksburg*.
 - Working with *Tree Fredericksburg* to do some replacement trees, about 15 to 20. We are also going to be using some of the giveaway trees to replace trees in the parks.
 - Will finish up the Healing Grove in Memorial Park, add a couple of trees by the pickle ball courts in Memorial Park, add a couple of trees at the south end of Memorial Park, replace trees by the Dog Park, one tree in Hurkamp Park, and one tree in front of the rescue squad building.
- **Tree Fredericksburg Update** – Carl & Anne Little:
 - Rappahannock Electric Cooperative presented *TF* a \$5,000 grant for tree planting in the city.

- The tree planting calendar for this fall was briefly reviewed.
- A meeting was held with Doug Fawcett, Assistant City Manager; Diane Beyer, Director of Public Works, and Robert Courtnage, Chairman, Clean & Green Commission; and Carl & Anne of *TF* to discuss the budget for *Tree Fredericksburg* and plantings this year. We are supposed to have a follow-up meeting soon to resolve issues.
- A *Tree Fredericksburg* Tree Giveaway event will be held on Nov 7 in the Fred Nats stadium parking lot.
- Downtown flowerpots are to be replanted in November with Christmas trees, which will be decorated.
- TF has gone through eleven employees this year due to having to increase staff during extended dry period, then having some going back to school, active duty, new jobs, etc.
- The restaurant, *Foode*, is planning to add a bunch of potted trees around their outside dining area. *Tree Fredericksburg* offered to let them purchase trees through our grower, and we are going to assist them with setting these up in front of their restaurant.
- Discussion on our tree survivability percentages. Overall survivability from all causes is 83.08%, and from natural causes is 86.57%. The combination of Green Committee, Tree Crew, Tree Stewards, watering, etc. have made this possible.
- **City Updates** – Diane Beyer (Jason Ogle attending for Diane Beyer):
 - Tree Crew has been busy going down the various streets pruning and lifting the tree crowns. Lifting has been more aggressive due to lots of breakage due to delivery trucks.
- **UMW Update** – Holly Chichester:
 - Students are back on campus. All is going well so far.
 - There have been several meetings of the Ecology Club, and work projects accomplished.
 - There will not be a UMW Tree Festival this year due to Covid restrictions.
- **Tree Steward Update** – Christien Conniff:
 - There will be a Tree Steward meeting this week.
 - There are several upcoming events with which the Tree Stewards can help.
- **Member Comments/Questions:**
 - Anne Little – At the next meeting Anne will be coming in with a list of proposed trees from Shreckhise for next fiscal year. She would like to have members look over the list of trees planted to see if they have inputs for the list. Anne will also be sending out some suggestions of additions to the list.
 - Anne Little – Anne is going to do a tree ID session on Friday, Oct 16th. It will start at Maury Playground and proceed through her yard, then to the War Memorial.
 - Anne Little – Anne and Aaron are going over to Memorial park to identify the location of ground bees that need to be addressed.

- Aaron Simmons – They were able to take advantage of the state program to treat about 10 Ash trees in the parks.
- Holly Chichester – With the assistance of Bartlett Tree Experts they took cuttings from the Brompton Oak for propagation. The project now has 65 trees that have survived. They are deciding where to plant these trees or create an opportunity to use them in a fundraiser. The nursery responsible for the grafting work is hanging on to some of the clones to grow more in the future as needed.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Tree Giveaway Event – Saturday, November 7, 2020. To be held at the Fredericksburg Nats Stadium. 3,000 trees are scheduled to be given away at the event. We also plan to have about 500 moisture meters to sell to people to check their own trees and plantings. Proper moisture levels are critical to the survival of trees.
- **Next Meeting** –Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 9 am, tentatively via *GoTo-Meeting*
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am.