



Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 9:00 am

Green Committee – Minutes

Online *GoTo-Meeting*

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

Meeting called to order by Holley Chichester, Chair, at 9:02 am.

Green Committee Members Present: Holly Chichester, Jason Coiner, Christien Conniff, David Dorsey, Lisa Durham, John Eastman, Steve Gaske, Carolyn Helfrich, Gary Johnson, Carl Little, Adam Lynch, Jason Ogle, Michael Roberson, Aaron Simmons, Manij Upadhyay, and Frank Widic.

- **Introduction** – Guests and new members: None
 - Manij Upadhyay, Mattaponi - Area Forester
 - Rebecca Hanmer, retired EPA Director of the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP), current Chair of the CBP Forestry Workgroup, on the Tree Fredericksburg board and FOR member
- **Approve January 12, 2021 Minutes:**
 - Minutes were approved as written.
- **Public Comments:**
 - None
- **Baseball Stadium Installation Update** – Anne Little:
 - Not any activity at this time. Thirty-two additional trees will be added this spring. These are species that are best planted in the spring. The timing for planting the required shrubs has not been finalized at this time.
- **Parks, Recreation and Events Update** – Aaron Simmons:
 - Nothing to report
- **Tree Fredericksburg Update** – Carl & Anne Little:
 - Minimal activity at this time.
 - We are planning to plant approximately 100 replacement trees during the spring, as well as the 32 trees at the baseball stadium.
- **Department of Forestry Update** – Manij Upadhyay:
 - A report, attached, containing information and announcements was provided by Manij Upadhyay and discussed
- **City Updates** –Gary Johnson:
 - Nothing of significance to report.

- The department is concentrating on preparations for potential snow removal.
- **UMW Update** – Holly Chichester:
 - UMW classes started Monday of last week.
 - Some coordination is in progress on several volunteer activities for the COAR organization.
- **Tree Steward Update** – Christien Conniff:
 - Tree Steward classes are in progress.
 - The Tree Stewards will be forming as an official organization with officers, etc.
 - Preparations are in progress for again setting up a station at the farmers market at Hurkamp Park to hand out materials on tree planting and care.
- **Member-Guest Presentation/Discussion:**
 - Rebecca Hanmer, with Adam Lynch, *The Muddy Rappahannock – FEMA Flood Map Update*
 - Rebecca Hanmer provided the following comments:
 - She informed the committee that Trestle Park, at the corner of Caroline St. and Frederick St, is now an official city park. This was the culmination of a lot of neighborhood encouragement.
 - During a recent walk through Old Mill Park with Frank Widic they noted the impact of river flooding on the vegetation along the river bank.
 - A number of recently planted river birch trees on the lower tier of the park by the river had been washed away.
 - Increased river flooding is probably the result of both climate change as well as manmade changes in the watershed of the river.
 - A solution needs to be developed on how to mitigate flood damage in Old Mill Park.
 - Friends of the Rappahannock does a lot of work in protecting the Rappahannock River, and should be able to help in this area. They have also been involved with a Flood Map Update that FEMA is doing.
 - Adam Lynch provided a presentation on the status of the FEMA Flood Map Update. A copy of this presentation is attached.
 - The 100-Year and 500-Year floodplain areas are being revised.
 - In Fredericksburg this will affect what and how structures can be built, as well as what structures will need to have flood insurance.
 - Fredericksburg GIS has floodplain mapping now.
 - Holly Chichester asked the committee what they thought regarding the impact of this information on Fredericksburg. The discussion included the following:
 - The importance of continuing to add and maintain trees in the city is apparent.

- We should investigate ways to improve vegetation, etc. along the riverfront. This includes trees, shrubs, grasses, etc.
- Aaron Simmons noted that he agreed with trying to do improvements in Old Mill Park that will help with flood control.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - None
- **Next Meeting** –Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 9:00 am, unless otherwise determined, we will still be in the *GoTo-Meeting* format.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:53 am.