



Scheduled: Tuesday, June 12, 2018, 8:00 a.m.

Green Committee – Minutes (Final Approved Minutes)

In attendance:

Tom Snody (Dept of Forestry), Carl Banks (City Tree Crew), Michael Roberson (President, Tree Stewards), Anne Little, Carl Little, Steve Gaske, Aaron Simmons (Parks and Recreation), Hunter Woods, (Dominion Energy), Dominion Energy Intern, and Frank Widic (Chair)

- The regular meeting of the Green Committee was called to order by Frank Widic at 8:02 a.m.
- Introductions – None
- Frank Widic called for additions or corrections to the Draft 05/08/2018 Green Committee Minutes. No changes were offered to the draft minutes. The minutes were approved by the unanimous consent voting method since no corrections were offered.
- Public Comments: No public comments were presented.
- Discussion items: Frank Widic, Chair, Green Committee
 - Utility Strip (curb) "Partnership" care (short term goal # 2):
 - A draft of the current version of this document was passed out for review.
 - This draft was briefly discussed. The following comments were offered:
 - This document had previously been discussed as being formatted as a door hanger rather than a tri-fold brochure. This would facilitate having it distributed throughout the community, possibly by Tree Stewards.
 - If the document were shorter, more concise, it might be more likely to get read by residents.
 - Date the document
 - Explore feasibility of Forrest Service grant to be used to educate the public and to distribute the brochure.
 - Consider establishing a standard city wide policy (City Ordinance) on planting in the utility strip, educating the public and establishing a strict city wide enforcement.
 - Heritage Tree Program (short term goal # 4):
 - Handout passed out for review

- Comments on program:
 - Handout needs to be dated to ensure which version is current.
 - Anne Little volunteered to serve as the committee POC to:
 - Obtain grant money to manage the program.
 - Obtain student volunteer from Univ of Mary Washington or Germana to manage the program.
 - A motion was made by Anne Little and seconded to adopt the Heritage Tree Program. The motion was approved.
 - Tree List Revision:
 - A revised street tree list, containing some amendments by Anne Little was passed out.
 - Comments:
 - Frank Widic outlined the importance and background of the street tree list.
 - Contractors will use this list to pick trees to plant along the streets adjacent to their projects, so it is important to provide clear sound guidance in order to help them select trees that we want planted on our streets.
 - Anne Little discussed how the list was created, and some of the parameters involved.
 - A motion was made and seconded by Michael Roberson to accept the draft revised street list. The motion was approved. The list will now go to Public Works for any final revision and publication.
 - Green Committee Operating Policy:
 - Frank Widic passed out a draft Green Committee By-Laws, or Operating Policy, for review and discussion at the next meeting. Frank invited members to forward any comments to him during the month for discussion at the next meeting.
 - Typically, a committee does not have By-Laws, so it is probably better to call this document Operating Policy or something of that nature.
- Recreation Commission Update: Frank Widic, Chair, Green Committee
 - Healing Grove Proposal:
 - Frank Widic reviewed the background and gave an update of the Healing Grove proposal.
 - One primary direction from the Recreation Commission was to not encroach on the open field areas.

- The Green Committee’s task was to look at the proposed tree plan and map for the Healing Grove and provide comments regarding design, tree placement and tree species selection.
 - The plan and map for the grove had been prepared by Mental Health America-Fredericksburg and submitted to the Recreation Commission. Tree Fredericksburg assisted with laying out the design in Memorial Park.
 - The Green Committee reviewed the plan and map and advised the Clean and Green Commission that they agreed with the plan and map. This was passed on to the Recreation Commission.
 - Current status: The proposal is still under Recreation Commission review for final decision. They have put the plan out for public comment, pending their final action.
- Tree Fredericksburg Update: Anne Little, Executive Director, Tree Fredericksburg.
 - Waiting for Public Works approval of the planting areas for FY2018/2019.
 - Some areas, such as in the median of Cowan Blvd have very compacted soil, which could be mulched in advance to soften the soil ahead of planting.
 - Some areas might be helped by amending the soil prior to planting. Tom Snoddy volunteered to assist with looking at potential amendments.
 - Tree Fredericksburg is going to approach the City Manager about having City Staff participate in one of the plantings in the Fall.
 - Grant request submitted to Arbor Day Foundation for another tree giveaway in Fall 2018.
 - We have grants for planting at the High School and other schools. The Department of Forestry awarded us a grant which will include some planting at the high school. Dominion Energy is giving us grants for planting at the High School and also for the construction of an outdoor classroom. Construction of the outdoor classroom and possibly some other assistance may be performed by Dominion Energy personnel as part of their volunteer program.
 - Some of the single-stem Crape Myrtles took a hit during this past winter. Several have died and will have to be removed. Most of these will be replaced by another species due to the cost for the single-stem plants.
- Member Comments/Recommendations:
 - Frank Widic pointed out an article of interest in the 06/10/2018 Washington Post Metro section, about tree planting in Washington DC.
 - Frank Widic will poll members regarding whether to hold a meeting during July.
- Upcoming Events:

- UMW will again be having an orientation session for a group of their students this Fall before classes start. Part of their activities will include a community volunteer event. Tree Fredericksburg will arrange a mulching project at Maury Playground on August 24th to accommodate them. This has been coordinated with the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Events.
- Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 10, 2018, 8:00 am (unless a decision is made to forego a July meeting).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.