

Tree Commission Meeting Minutes: March 7, 2023

Attendees: Peggy Van Yahres, Donna Shaunesey, Holly Lafferty, Jeff Pacelli, Jeff Aten, Makshya Tolbert, Mark Rylander, Jeff Aten, Jean Umiker-Sebeok, Karim Habbab, , Riaan Anthony, Tim Padalino, Vicky Metcalf, Rob Mathes

Jeff A: Comments regarding January Minutes (approved)

Brief Summary of Staff Projects:

- Discussion on RFP process, RFP has been made available to vendors
- Brief discussion on wood removed from Downtown Mall Trees. Parks and Rec is in the process of donating the wood to UVA Sawmill Group and Downtown Association Brief discussion regarding tree plantings (162)

Updates:

Tree Commission window for new applications will be closing, have received several applicants

Tree Commission request for Teams Access is being pursued, would be good if every member has access so that information can be easily shared

Sub Committees:

Education/Outreach (Jean Umiker Sebok):

Education and Outreach stresses the following:

- Educate Public on benefits of trees (will present at Arbor Day and Earth Day events)
- Will work with partners and advocate/educate for increased canopy
- Will work towards metrics to measure how canopy is being increased/decreased and find means to project extent of tree canopy needed to meet goals outlined in Climate Action Plan

Additional conversation for methods to provide tree work services for lower income homes (automatic expenses incurred by city that feeds a fund for city tree work on private properties)

Arbor Comm (Makshya Tolbert):

- Discussion about Arbor Day Events (tree planting at Burnley Moran Elem and activities for students, Earth Day).
- Memorial Tree designation – To what extent is city involved regarding maintenance/replacement (consult trails and NDS)
- Motion to Approve 8 Street Trees to “Street Tree Preservation Status”

Codes Comm (Vicky Metcalf):

Module 2 of the Codes re-writes will be available late March

Current codes driven by Affordable housing, need to find way to work in concert with environment.
Module 2 will be very important on this front

Suggestion – Environmentally sensitive areas should have a separate map overlay

Everyone should read Module 2 before the next TC meeting on April 4th

Current plans from Cville Plans Together can be found at

<http://www.cvilleplanstogether.com/draft-zoning/>

Public Comments: John Worozbyt – Suggest more public awareness about the evils of invasive plants.
Specifically English Ivy. Further suggests bulk mailings for homeowners

Meeting Adjourned