

CHARLOTTESVILLE TREE COMMISSION
May 7th, 2024
5:00 – 7:00 pm
In-Person Meeting – Parks and Recreation Office
(Downtown Mall, Adjacent to Parking Garage)

Call to Order and Approval of April Minutes (*M. Tolbert*) – 5:00

New Tree Commissioners – Introductions (5:00-5:30)

Staff Report – 5:30-6:00 (*S. Gaines*)

- Recent Grant Award – Update- Charlottesville Procurement has advertised RFP to hire a contractor. Hope to have a contractor starting work by mid-June.
- RFQ for watering contract out to bid – 365(ish) trees to water through May-September.
- Invasive Control/Containment – Contractor has completed mulching work at Quarry Park (about 2.5 acres) and JW Parkway (about 1.5 acres). Approximately 400 trees planted at Quarry Park (Northern Red Oak, White Oak, Smooth Sumac). Over 35 volunteers came out to support the planting.
- Mulching started on Oakwood Cemetery (1 acre), operations will be concluded after trash/debris removed from the center of the unit. – Will plan to install trees in fall 2024.
- Mulching operations are suspended until winter (and next CIP cycle). Remaining funds will be spent on native groundcover seed/installation and herbicide applications through the growing season.
- Tree Planting Contractor (from spring 2023) replaced trees that died in spring 2023 planting. Planted additional 15 trees on City Properties.
- Parks and Rec has hired a seasonal technician (Carolyn Thanig). She will be assisting with Street tree inventory, invasive vegetation assessments, and trail work.
- Additional interest in Virginia Urban Wood Network and increased interest regarding invasive plant control/containment outreach.
- Members of Tree Commission, Blue Ridge Prism, RE Leaf Cville, Parks/Rec, Rivanna Conservation Alliance, Piedmont Environmental Council, Nature Conservancy, and Piedmont Botanical Society discussed methods to reach a broader audience in regards to invasive vegetation awareness/education and community management programming.

- Kudos to Paul Josey and Keith Prichard for assistance with 2nd Street White Oak trees – for the time, the majority of these trees will be preserved .

New/Old Business: 6:00-6:50

- New Business: Tree Commission 2024 Priorities and Subcommittees (*M. Tolbert*)
 - Summarize Tree Commission current stated goals
 - Discuss/amend scope of subcommittee descriptions
 - Prioritizing range and priorities per subcommittee (10ish min/cmte)
 - Education/Advocacy
 - Arbor
 - Codes and Zoning
 - Chairs and members of each subcommittee
 - Education/Advocacy:
 - Arbor:
 - Codes and Zoning:

Subcommittee Reports – no report-outs

- Education & Advocacy
- Arbor Committee
- Codes and Practices

Items/Announcements Not on Agenda/Action Items for Next Meeting – 6:45-6:50

- Time to start thinking toward a SOTF to send at the beginning of CFP budgeting process: what are the models, research, and priorities we need to start discussing and clarifying?

General Public Comment – 6:50-7:00

Adjourn – 7:00

^(†) At the discretion of the Chair, public comments related to particular agenda items may be solicited at that point in the meeting.

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