



Town of Vienna

Charles A. Robinson Jr.
Town Hall
127 Center Street South
Vienna VA, 22180

Meeting Minutes - Final Tree Advocacy Committee

Thursday, February 13, 2025

6:30 PM

Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St.
SE

1. Regular Business

Roxanne Paul, Sammy Bryant, Sandy Shinn, Ken Foley, John Shults, Aditi Chandra, Lea Giovaniello, and Doug Noble were all present. Chris Bredehoeft was absent.

Minutes Approval

Minutes Approval. The minutes from 1/23/25 meeting were approved unanimously

Election of Officers

Roxanne Paul was nominated to be chair and the vote passed unanimously. She and Jeremy will work together going forward to decide which items will be on the agenda. Also, Owen McCarty was introduced as the clerk to this committee to assist in meeting recordings and agenda preparation.

Future Meetings/ Plan of Action

The committee expressed an interest in having Tim Koski from the urban forestry department do a more In-depth presentation of the process of his work. He touched on it in the first meeting, but the TAC wants to hear more about him, and he said he will do a detailed presentation at the next meeting. There was also a shared interest in a site visit in which Tim Koski, Mathew Fuller, and Jeremy Edwards from parks and rec can show the TAC and on-site example of the work they are doing with trees. The TAC started discussions about what their goals for this committee are and how they can achieve them. Doug Noble began by emphasizing the importance of laying out goals that are attainable with clear plans of action. He also wanted the commission to be aware of how the TAC will interact with the town code that is already in place regarding trees.

Sandy Shinn talked about a campaign in which the TAC could begin bringing awareness to the importance of invasive vine cutting on people's trees. The TAC agreed that beginning this campaign within Vienna parks would be a better starting point rather than trying to convince residents to cut down their own vines. There was also discussion about whether this campaign was to catch on, offering it as an opportunity for service hours to high school students and/or boy and girl scout troops. The TAC believes an attainable goal is to bring awareness to simple and effective practices to limit invasive species that threaten native trees and ways to increase species diversity.

Tim Koski shared that PIO Karen Thayer has expressed how she loves to work with commissions to get the word out whether it be social media or the Vienna voice. The TAC showed a collective interest in perhaps a quarterly article that they could write

or social media posts to bring attention to certain topics which they are campaigning for. Tim will reach out to Karen to possibly have her come to the next meeting and speak about outreach strategies that the committee can use going forward.

The final discussion point of the meeting was a presentation from the guest speaker Brian Land about a grant program that the TAC could apply for. This would provide money to purchase trees that could be planted. The TAC showed collective interest in this and thought it could be a good opportunity for the TAC to get hands on. Mr. Land also spoke about the tree give away that the CSC ran, and that the TAC could perhaps take over or do their own. Mr. Land also discussed the process of street tree planting in Vienna and his goals to have the TAC be a vocal leader in changing that process and allowing more trees to get planted. Finally, he spoke about arbor day, and how the TAC could get involve and brought up some new ideas for the town to do this year, which the TAC could lead.

2. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned 8:05pm