

**Natural Resources Joint Advisory Group
Meeting Minutes May 1, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm in the auditorium of Long Branch Nature Center.

In attendance were: Phil Klingelhofer (UFC), Nereide Ellis, Caroline Haynes, David Howell (Park and Rec), Sarah Meservey (E2C2), and Alonso Abugattas (DPR).

Guest: Kurt Moser, Four Mile Run Conservatory Foundation

No Public Comment

Minutes from April 3, 2017 NRJAG Meeting were adopted.

Background on the formation and focus of the Four Mile Run Conservatory Foundation

Kurt Moser provided a brief history and background on the formation of the Four Mile Run Conservatory Foundation. The Four Mile Run Conservatory Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and volunteer organization formed in 2016 following years of community efforts to foster the preservation, beautification, improvement, maintenance, and enjoyment of Four Mile Run Park. Their mission is to engage and educate the public, and to maintain the trail system and natural lands around lower Four Mile Run to improve Four Mile Run Park, and to foster respect and stewardship for this unique urban ecosystem and its natural, historic, and recreational resources.

Their work spans both sides of mostly lower Four Mile Run, though they focus their work on Alexandria since the Arlington side has been under renovation. They have a formal partnership with Alexandria Sports and Recreation but receive no city funding. Activities include CUBs (“Celebrate Urban Birds”), Frog Watch, Christmas Bird Counts, and the Great Backyard Bird Count.

Staff Updates:

Alonso Abugattas provided the following updates:

- The Arlington Bioblitz is to take place Saturday, May 20 with core hours of 10am-4pm. Biotic inventories at several parks will take place, though the field base will be at Barcroft Park.
- The proposed Administrative Regulation protecting known significant nature features has been reviewed by the County lawyer and is at the County manager’s Office for approval.
- The 8 tables allotted for the Natural Resources Management Unit in the green house were well used, yielding for example over 200 common milkweed plants, all of which ready to be moved outdoors.

- The Natural Resources Management Unit has been collecting and compiling information on meadow and field management. The volunteer serving a pro bono fellowship has also been interviewing meadow management specialists.

Member Reports:

- Phil Klingelhofer (UFC) reported that the County's RPA maps have been updated. Work is now commencing on Donaldson Run Tributary B.
- Sarah Meservey (E2C2) updated NRJAG on the Lubber Run project, with 4 conceptual plans being proposed, and urged members to review ten proposals and submit comments.