

Urban Forestry Commission
April 24, 2015
Meeting Summary

Attendance

Phil Klingelhofer
Elisha Rubin
Alex Sanders
Scott Brinitzer
Nora Palmatier
Steve Campbell
Paul Campanella
Dean Amel
Mikaila Milton

State and County Staff

Vincent Verweij, DPR
Rachel Jackson, DPR
Sarah Archer, DPR

Guests, Commissioners and Staff – Introductions and Sign-in

Dean started the meeting with introductions for everyone present.

Public Comment

No public comment

Approval of March Minutes

The minutes were approved by consensus.

Invasive plant regulations and state code:

Sarah Archer, Arlington County's invasive plant coordinator, presented updates to invasive plant regulations and state code.

The noxious weeds code was last updated on January 29, 2015. The code speaks to Tier 1 and 2 weeds. DPR submitted a second round of comments on January 22, 2015, and UFC submitted a second round of comments on January 27, 2015. Comments were posted for 30 days on a website and 21 comments were made on Arlington's posted comments. Sarah Archer and Jamie Bartalon will attend a meeting in Richmond on the proposed changes.

The General Assembly will have to approve the change in definitions to include more species onto the list. Delegate Hope supports UFC's efforts on this issue, but all comments to Del. Hope need to go through the County Board's liaison. Dean Amel explained that the definitions must be changed, and if the State claims that if it is widely disseminated it cannot be a noxious weed, this should be reassessed. A letter should be sent quickly to the County Board to ask for a change in

the definition to include those invasive species that are considered widely disseminated within the state

Sarah noted a DCR list of invasive plants, which is scientific, in that it defines the species' relative invasiveness.

Dean suggested two options for further action:

1. Regulations should be universal across the state; or
2. Give the locality the option to decide which plants are on the list in their jurisdiction

We are stating that the goal is to stop the sale of the plants that are considered weeds. UFC and Arlington County want to go with the DCR list and get rid of the Tier 1 and Tier 2 system.

Sarah then stated that we (County and UFC) proposed the two tiers but it was a very different proposal and changed the meaning that resulted in the tiers that exist now.

Nora Palmatier inquired about what we gain from pursuing this.

Dean responded that this is an effort to remove invasive plants from sale in the State.

Nora asked what the advantage is to pushing this issue if it might not be able to be changed. Is this a priority to approach and pursue with the State? Is it going to make a change?

Dean said we are getting support from people around the state who support Arlington's position. Delegate Hope in Richmond is supporting this and we want to write a letter for it.

Nora said the County Board might not want to pursue this as an issue with the State. However, the Board was discussing the invasive removals in the Arlington County Parks and the Board is becoming more aware of the issue.

It was established in discussion that:

1. It is worthwhile to write the letter and see how the Board responds to the letter from UFC.
2. This request from Arlington does not seem to be that far out there and it is easy to understand this is not only an Arlington problem.
3. The letter will not be sent directly to Patrick Hope, but you can contact him directly about the topic as a resident.

Remaining questions:

1. Is there a precedent for localities to make policy on weeds on their own?
2. Can the General Assembly delegate things like this to localities?
3. Would this issue fall under Code Enforcement to prevent these invasive species from being sold?

It was noted that for Form Based Code projects under Columbia Pike Area Plan you cannot plant invasives on private property.

Dean asked for people to make a motion. He will draft a letter proposing that state law be amended to allow widely distributed plants to be declared invasive and to expand the current list. Once the letter is drafted, it will be shared with E2C2 for approval.

All were in favor of drafting a letter to the board.

Update on County Invasive Plant Control Efforts

Sarah Archer presented the history of invasive plant control efforts, and current projects underway. The following questions and points were raised during and after the presentation:

1. Lubber Run
 - a. Was the ivy sprayed or pulled? – sprayed
 - b. What was the spray? – backpack spraying, foliar broadcast spray, hack and squirt method
2. Abingdon: Vincent is trying to get an invasive plant control added.
3. Progress:
 - a. Lubber Run is the first park to graduate and 2016 will have two more parks come off the contract list.
 - b. Restoration plantings have been done in the problem areas in Lubber Run to prevent anything coming back.
 - c. Programs are starting for the early detection of invasives that use a smart phone app to GPS-locate invasive plant locations in parks.
 - d. Edmaps and Mid-Atlantic Detection Maps – it would be good to have the app on the Arlington Website, if possible.
 - e. What about private property that has invasives next to a park?
 - i. Lubber Run had a volunteer educate the neighbors to get rid of the plants
 - ii. Getting regional naturalists to volunteer and help educate
 - iii. Is there an ordinance about the invasives coming from private property into the park to prevent from them from spreading?
 - iv. Unkempt properties could be guided by code enforcement about the spreading the weeds from their property
 - v. Some property owners are receptive, but they cannot afford the removal. If volunteers are available to help, it is a huge help to the people who cannot bear the cost. They cannot do all the invasives but they can help with a lot.
 - vi. Post cards have been sent out to residents near Barcroft and Gulf Branch to say “do you have these in your yard?” to send back to DPR.
 - f. Is Callery pear invasive?
 - i. Yes it is and it is spread along highways in the area and currently in bloom.

4. Questions for Sarah
 - a. Seems like we did not lose money from the Invasive plant control program. We might want to think about requesting more money as the program goes on. The current budget is \$100,000. \$15,000 is for supplies.
 - b. Is IPC the only company around for invasive removal? No there are other options in the area.
 - c. We have gone outside of the contract when there was too much work for IPC
 - d. IPC can now keep up with the workload being given.
 - e. What is Fairfax doing compared to Arlington?
 - i. Not sure, just that it would be larger than Arlington
 - ii. Sarah organizes regular events to keep the program going. The UFC praised Sarah for her great work.
 - iii. How are things maintained?
 1. Through volunteers. The Natural Resource Management Plan lays out how to maintain the problems and approaches to use with the volunteers.
 2. There will be a scavenger hunt in Lacey Woods to hunt invasive plants.
 3. It was suggested that we should have a prize for invasive plants at the County Fair.
 4. Master Naturalists now have training to identify invasives.

Staff reports:

Vincent:

1. Budget – base budget decreased to plant 265 less trees this year
 - a. 440 trees to be planted in 2016.
 - b. 660 removals per year.
 - c. One time funding was included to cover the decrease in the budget for this year, so that 705 trees are to be planted this year.
 - d. Last year more than 705 trees were planted because of the storms to make up for trees lost, we are taking a cut, but basically back to where we were.
2. Arbor Day was well attended at Long Branch Elementary School
 - a. Kids sang songs and we planted a Princeton Elm.
 - b. There are photos on the school's site and Parks.
 - c. Calliper is measured 6" off the ground, the tree is planted 2" caliper.
 - d. Vincent shared video from the event and will send it around.
 - e. Jim McGlone gave the award at the event, but the growth award was left out. This has been received since.
3. Abingdon
 - a. School process
 - i. Last Wednesday there was a meeting and spoke about trees to be removed and trees to be planted.
 - ii. Removing 125 trees on the property, looking to plant 136 trees onsite.
 - iii. Healthy forest along the back of the Trades Center with some quality species.

- iv. There are a lot of trees to try to plant on site with less space onsite with the addition
 - v. There will be three stories on the addition.
 - vi. Trees to be used to try and buffer and soften the addition.
 - vii. Will have to be creative to get the trees onsite and where to plant and what species, spacing.
 - viii. Might need to look at smaller caliper trees and closer spacing to plant more of a forest edge to come back in where it is removed.
 - ix. Other, landscaped trees will be 3” caliper required.
 - x. Memorial red maples on the edge, one will be transplantable and it is being mulled over by the community. There may be a consideration to plant different species for the commemorative trees.
- b. Discussion
- i. Nora stated she thinks it makes sense for the site - swapping the tree planting size and invasive removals.
 - ii. Dean stated it makes sense to remove the invasives, Vincent must require the same amount of trees onsite and they cannot decrease the amount. Schools will not pay into the tree fund because it gets complicated.
 - iii. Karen - Why are they having to remove the memorial trees on the drive?
 - 1. It is because they have to meet the parking requirement for schools
 - 2. It becomes difficult to preserve open space and make them have more parking.
 - 3. Do they park on the street near the school?
 - a. Yes they do park on the streets.
 - b. You cannot assume homeowners will allow the school to use the parking spaces on the road as their parking.
 - c. Vincent cannot tell them not to take out the trees for parking.
 - d. When zoning requirement for parking changed for schools by the County Board it became a topic of discussion because it could be changed just for schools.
 - i. Wilson school site will be structured parking.
 - ii. Where we have land it is being used for parking because the parking structures are expensive.
 - 4. Vincent is going to make them replace the trees and make a plaque to commemorate the newly planted trees. It was a surprise to Scott Prisco the construction and design supervisor, who was not aware.

Rachel:

Kensington specimen tree: 3401 N. Kensington St had a tree adopted as a specimen tree in February 2015. The process started in October. Owner sold the property, and the deed was not updated until after the sale. A Board report is prepared, and we are waiting for a request to advertise for a public hearing for a request to remove the tree. May 16 is the board meeting to request to advertise for the public meeting. Actual hearing will be June 15.

Dean asked whether they will have to pay the fine?

Rachel responded that if the Board approves the waiver, they can remove it. The builder said development plans were already in place, before the dedication was recorded.

Dean: The builder did not know?

Rachel: That was what was claimed.

Tuckahoe Park plans have been submitted. Rachel has been working with PDD on tree protection.

Ongoing park construction updates:

Gunston Comm. Center and park: Work will start on Monday, end on August 27

Oakgrove Park: Final walkthroughs.

Virginia Highlands: Going fine.

Fairlington Comm. Center: some issues with transplanting trees on the parking lot. A new tree will be planted to cover for damage. ADA entrance is being redone, as well.

Before moving on, Dean noted that the Beautification Committee may be folding, as there is not enough interest in membership. The Beautification Committee designates notable trees and landscaping awards. Notable trees will most likely become a UFC responsibility. The committee does have an endowment to continue, and this will need to be addressed. The landscaping awards were discussed, and it was considered to have a garden club take over this responsibility.

Member reports:

Caroline Haynes, NRJAG: Kevin Rose from VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries presented on deer management throughout VA. There was special focus and interest on deer management practices in Fairfax County, which have been ongoing since 1998. It was noted that Arlington has not yet even undertaken a deer survey. There is extensive anecdotal evidence that deer and excessive herbivory are becoming an increasing issue in Arlington, both in neighborhoods and with respect to forest restoration efforts.

Caroline Haynes, Park and Recreation Commission: The County Board ceremony for the Bill Thomas Awards for Outstanding Park Volunteer was held prior to meeting on Tuesday. Don Walsh and Mary McLean were the 2014 Bill Thomas Award recipients. A festive reception followed the ceremony.

Presentations included:

- a. Courthouse Plaza
- b. Update on the newly appointed and reconfigured work group on the Long Bridge Aquatics center

Karen Kumm Morris, Planning activities:

Planning Initiatives

Community Facilities Study, 2015 – On going

- Purpose is to determine facility needs, funding sources and principles and criteria for locating these needed facilities, county-wide.
- The study committee is not locating facilities but **recommending the process** for locating facilities.
- 1st Mtg. will be April 27, **2nd Mtg. May 5 to identify Siting Principles**. UFC should have a UFC member tracking this effort.
- UFC should consider identifying “siting principles” that minimize grading, and promote tree preservation, reforestation and new canopy plantings to ensure that that these principles make it into the final set of recommendations.
- Schedule – Study Committee will report to CB in September and November, 2015.

Realize Rosslyn –Sector Plan

- Final Staff Draft is coming out very soon, within the next few weeks. **UFC should ask for a presentation by Staff in May in order to offer timely comments.** Staff will take all comments, and create a table with staff responses to present to CB in June.
- County Board worksession, March 4, focused on building height, open space and I-66 Air Rights, and the level of flexibility given in the plan. CB general supported for the idea of changing the building height and form in Rosslyn from currently a “Tent” to a “Peaks and Valleys” approach better responding to topography and maintaining views from Central Place’s public terrace. CB supported the Plan’s proposed Open Space Network but added more options for the Rosslyn Plaza project. CB decided provide only general comments about I-66 at this time and not specific land use or density.
- RTA before the PC in May. Final Plan approval is targeted for Planning Commission and County Board approval in June, 2015.
- UFC will need to continue to track tree canopy issues and provide timely comments in order to ensure that the Plan has a minimum goal of 17% canopy coverage as previously requested.
- **Draft letter to PC before May RTA and to County Board in time for June CB public hearing.**

Western Rosslyn Area Planning Study (WRAPS)

- Working Group mtg. April 22, (see Steve Campbell’s report for more info).
- Staff presented a revised plan incorporating CB’s recommendations. Revisions included elimination of Pierce Street through to 18th Street (either no Pierce Str. Or a partial street) but with a new street to the east, reorienting the commercial building to front Wilson Blvd. and creating a larger open space along 18th Street to address concerns about loss of open space. New concepts will create a min. of 21,840 SF sized park on Joint Development site, not including open space to be achieved on proposed school.
- County Manager has recommended not designating the old Wilson School for preservation and for continuing a joint development with Penzance.
- Schedule: May review by Commissions and final plans presented to PC and CB in June and July. CB voted last Saturday to deny historic designation which will open the way for APS to demolish the old school.

- **UFC should request a staff presentation and provide comments to PC and CB before June, 2015.**

Courthouse Square Sector Plan Addendum

- Staff is finalizing design guidelines to be included in draft plan. Will be available in May, 2015. UFC needs to track concerns related to tree preservation of Memorial Trees and new tree planting guidance.
- Staff is presenting draft plan to various commissions. E2C2 is having a presentation on April 27, 2015.
- Schedule: Working Group will hold next meeting on May 5, 2015. Currently staff is planning for July PC and CB but may get shifted back due to number of projects before the CB in July.

Lee Highway Corridor Planning

- CB has approved this planning initiative as a part of the County's work program.
- The Lee Highway Alliance, a 15 civic association led effort, has been holding monthly meetings on topics such as transportation, housing, retail and other related matters for 2 years identifying community concerns and issues.
- A design charrette will be held in the Fall, 2015 led by the County to identify a community vision for the corridor. This will give guidance to a future County's work group, TBD.

Columbia Pike and Crystal City Reassessment

- Need to find out more about the scope and schedule of this reassessment.

Public Spaces Master Plan

- **PHASE 1:** Consultant selection & Creation of the PSMP Update Advisory Committee (February-June 2015), Preliminary Inventory of the County parkland and related assets (May 2015)
- **PHASE 2:** Broad community outreach. (2nd & 3rd Quarter 2015)
- **PHASE 3:** Plan Development & County Board adoption (4th Quarter 2015 – 3rd Quarter 2016)

Affordable Housing Study Framework

- 3 year planning effort, now ready for broad public review
- Draft plan available on line, specific housing sites are not identified in plan but does include policies for locating housing.
- Community Forum held on March 28, 2015
- CB public hearing to be scheduled in June, 2015

On-going Site Plan Review Committee Activity

Rosslyn Plaza – PDSP, SP #422, no additional SPRC or PC public hearing scheduled yet.

- Located between Kent Street and Arlington Ridge Road
- Proposed mixed use development, 1.8 million SF offices, 300-360 residential units, 1 hotel, and significant urban open space.
- Very controversial due to lack of street grid, nature of urban open space, building heights
- **No urban tree canopy issues.** Proposed urban tree plans along all street frontages and within open spaces over structure. Significant amount of tree plantings proposed with over 1,000 CF of soil for trees.
- Awaiting applicant's response to Dec. SPRC. No more SPRC sessions are currently scheduled.

Pentagon Center – PDSP and Phase 1 Site Plan, SP #297

- Located between 1201 S. Hayes & 1200 S. Fern St. (Costco block)
- Discussion continues on building form and layout at SPRC, April 23.
- Next SPRC (TBD) will cover open space, streetscapes, etc. with the opportunity to request increased tree canopy.

672 Flats, 672 N. Glebe Road – RPC#13-018-009, -012, -013, -016, -017.

- Located across from Ballston Mall just north of Carlin Springs Road.
- Developer is Penrose. Submitted as Ballston Acquisition Company LLC
- 178 residential units, with ground floor retail, 1,388 SF along Glebe Road.
- Challenging tree issues related to buffering community. (Steve Campbell, covering SPRC, has more detailed info)
- Possibly will be presented to PC and CB in July, TBD.

223 23rd Street (Crystal Plaza 5, Block M– SPRC review TBD

- Located at the corner of Crystal Drive and 23rd Street, Crystal City
- Developer is Vernado
- Proposes the redevelopment of an existing office building with 353 new residential uses and a new 658,360 SF office building.
- Issues with compliance with Crystal City Sector Plan's retail recommendations, land use locations and open space.
- Redevelopment of 23rd Street with a center transit lanes eliminates existing park space with a double row of London Plane trees unfortunately, with little new canopy trees to replace the lost.

Ballston Oak Townhouses – 1124 -1138 N. Stuart Street , **SPRC review TBD**

- Located south of Washington Blvd in Ballston.
- Developer is Ballston Acquisition.
- Proposal for 16, 4 story townhouses in two buildings.
- Requesting modifications to use, setbacks and coverage.
- Appears to impact significant existing trees.

Asked to get people to present on WRAPS and Realize Rosslyn next meeting. Community facilities subcommittee is meeting May 5. Karen asks UFC to engage early to recommend principles and policies. Lee Hwy vitalization is starting. Some discussion on streetscape on Lee Hwy is underway. Leading to a charrette in September. This will turn into a workgroup. Columbia pike Form-based Code and Crystal City Sector Plan re-assessment is happening.

Vincent confirmed Scott Brinitzer as the UFC liaison for the Public Square public review process on Columbia Pike and George Mason Dr.

Ed Hilz and Karen Kumm Morris, Public Facilities Review

On April 15, the PFRC held its seventh meeting regarding the renovation and expansion of Abingdon Elementary School and its first meeting regarding the renovation and expansion of the H-B Woodlawn/Stratford building for the new Stratford Middle School Program. Vincent also attended the meeting.

The following is a link to the PFRC website where you can access the Agenda and the PowerPoint Presentations for the Stratford and Abingdon parts of the meeting. The PowerPoint Presentations will be posted later this week or early next week.

<http://commissions.arlingtonva.us/planning-commission/public-facilities-review-committee-pfrc/>

Stratford Middle School

The new Stratford Middle School Program will be located in the H-B Woodlawn/Stratford building. The H-B Woodlawn Middle and High School Programs along with the Stratford Secondary Special Education Program will be relocated to a new building on the Wilson School site in Rosslyn.

The APS staff and consultants gave an overview of the planned expansion and renovation of the building that would accommodate 1,000 students. Currently, there are 700 students. The project will involve additional classrooms, a new library, and interior infrastructure upgrades.

This building is on the National Historical Register. The NHR listing does not require that the historical architecture be preserved or replicated but APS has agreed to do so where feasible. Residents have filed an application with the County for local historical designation of the building. If approved, this designation would require preservation and replication of the historical architecture.

The impact of this project on the nearby Department of Parks and Recreation property will be discussed.

Abingdon Elementary School:

Some of the sustainability features mentioned in a previous meeting (such as solar panels and geothermal field) will probably not be part of the renovation because of insufficient funds due to escalating project costs. The locations of the bio-retention areas to capture stormwater were discussed. The borings done showed that the soil is sufficiently stable so no piles will be needed for the three-story addition.

The location of pedestrian related improvements such as additional crosswalks, a raised crosswalk on Abingdon to reduce speeding, and lighting were discussed. The Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Survey completed by staff showed that there is sufficient interest in carpooling to offer the APS stipend to reduce the demand for onsite parking.

The landscape consultants (Hord Coplan Macht) and the arborist (Wetland Studies and Solutions) discussed the trees to be removed, transplanted and planted:

Trees on site: 442

Trees to be removed: 125

Trees to be transplanted: 11 (commemorative trees)

Replacement trees required: 136

Trees by Priority Rating:

Currently on site (442): #1-55, #2-175, #3-184, #4-28

Removals (125): #1-10, #2-38, #3-70, #4-7

Transplants (11): #1-11

Remain on site (306): #1-34, #2-137, #3-114, #4-21

Further discussions will be held with the civic association (Fairlington Citizens Association) and the Fairlington Historical Society as to whether the commemorative trees should be transplanted or new ones planted. The consulting arborist has concerns about the health of the trees and the cost to transplant them due to their size. Vincent will evaluate the commemorative trees and make a recommendation.

There is concern that there is not enough space on the site to plant the 136 replacement trees. If so, planting some of the replacement trees on other public property will be discussed, such as at other nearby APS sites, Fort Reynolds Park, the Fairlington Community Center, or Utah Park.

E2C2:

E2C2 has not met yet. Last time, WRAPS was presented. The commission letters may have had some effect, as they directed county staff to adjust components, to now create a more contiguous open space. There is still a discussion on the orientation of the field and passive use. APS is a player in this, which may cause some conflict, regarding a recreation field, requiring significant space.

Champion trees:

No report

Nora Palmatier , Tree Stewards, Urban Forestry Roundtable, Community Facilities and Tree Canopy Fund:

TreeStewards: 18 TreeStewards graduated this week, including Kelly Criswell of UFC and Bill Herring of APS. TS Don Walsh and MN Mary McLean received the Bill Thomas Volunteer Award at Tuesday board meeting; and both Mary Hynes and Jay Fisette spoke on how important invasive plant removal is and the education they received from volunteers. Parks staff compiled 3 pages of needed volunteer tasks throughout parks, schools, and streets and groups are being set up to carry out the tasks. For schools, all of Wakefield HS trees have had the posts/wiring removed and been pruned thanks to TS Hugh Robinson and Don Walsh – Wakefield is next on the list with a work day in July. Bluemont Junction trees will be mulched next week. Many thanks to Jamie, Vincent, Rachel and Sarah for helping shepherd this through! (I am hoping to be approved as a foster parent for Alonso's tree nursery in the next year.)

Urban Forestry Quarterly Roundtable: is Wednesday, May 27 at Fair Oaks Merrifield Garden Center. Topic is Obtaining Quality Trees and covers how trees are grown from seed (in Oregon with many transplants...) and how to write contract specifications to obtain best trees possible. There is research about why the current ANSI standards are not sufficient. This is a crucial issue and we should encourage Arlington staff over plant contracts to attend, it is more than arborists that need to understand the issue.

The next roundtable is going to cover on who writes and enforces the contracts for tree planting. Specifications and inspection.

Tree Canopy Fund: Deadline for reporting problems with trees planted in 2014 is May 1. For next year, with limited funding, only 100 trees will be accepted. Below are the dates:

Deadline for expressing interest is April 24. Learn more here.

Key Dates Friday, April 24th – Expression of interest forms due.

Friday, May 1st – Those who submitted an expression of interest application will be notified of status. Invitations to submit complete proposals sent.

Friday, June 26th – Completed applications from those invited to submit a complete proposal due.

By Late August – Applications reviewed.

By Late September – Applicants notified of outcome. October to January – Tree plantings scheduled (tentative).

May 2016 – Deadline for reporting issues with tree(s) - See more at:

<http://arlingtonenvironment.ipage.com/community-action/trees/#sthash.SSYHFFpG.dpuf>

Community Facilities: Last night's grim news was the County needs 13-18 additional acres for bus maintenance, fire station, police impound, storage. Positive news is that Fire Chief, Parks, Schools, DES seem to now be talking to each other and seeking innovative ways to proceed. I was also pleased that among the Assets of the usual playgrounds, fields, restrooms, dog parks (etc.) they included "10 Natural Resource Conservation Areas (130 acres)" and "19,000 Street trees estimate" and "Canopy Coverage 40%". So far meetings have been mostly giving facts of the current situation and anticipated needs – the charge is that by November the final report "may include recommendations for next-step public processes to develop targeted policy recommendations related to any aspect of the charge." So this group will not say put the fire station here, but will suggest process and policy.

Phil Klingelhofer, Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee:

On April 9, the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) held its monthly meeting, with one item on the agenda:

Affordable Housing Study – David Cristeal, Housing Director, Community Planning, Housing and Development Department (CPHD). David Cristeal provided an overview of the study and possible implementation actions and gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled Housing a Diverse and Inclusive Community in Arlington (attached).

Also attached are a) meeting notes from the public meeting announcing the Affordable Housing Study and the Implementation Plan on March 28th (prepared by Sarah McKinley, NCAC representative from Columbia Heights Civic Association), and b) the Arlington County Affordable Housing Master Plan draft of March 2015.

The following is a link to the Affordable Housing Study webpage, where you can access the study documents, implementation plans, meeting information, and more:

<https://housing.arlingtonva.us/affordable-housing-study/>

Dean Amel asked Vincent about the Urban Forest Masterplan update. No progress was reported. Dean asked what it would take, Vincent responded that leadership has not pushed this rewrite yet.

Jim McGlone: Not present. Nothing to report

Jim Meikle: Not here. Nothing to report.

Kirsten Buhls, Extension: Not present. Nothing to report

New Business

Dean to draft a letter on invasive plant regulation.

Scott reported on his project to encourage oak trees to be planted in his neighborhood. Every single native tree seems to have sold out at nurseries, including Stadler Nurseries. Scott is still looking for nurseries and sources for oaks.

Nora: even VDOF ran out of seedlings.

Vincent: this year will be a good year for white oaks.

Dean adjourned the meeting.