

Forest Conservation Advisory Committee
Minutes
March 18, 2014

ATTENDEES

Members

Carole Ann Barth
Bob Benson
Mark Buscaino
Rebecca Harris
Dan Landry
Laura Miller (DEP), ex officio
Katherine Nelson, (M-NCPPC), ex officio
John Pierson
David Plummer (MSCD), ex officio
Doug Sievers (WSSC), ex officio
Jeff Schwartz
Jason Sheer

Absent members

Andrew Der
David Kuykendall (DPS), ex officio
Brett Linkletter (DPWT), ex officio
David Myers
Michael Osmun
Dan Snyder

Others attending

Stan Edwards, DEP Staff

MINUTES

The Forest Conservation Advisory Committee met as scheduled on March 18, 2013.

The Committee discussed the position of Chair. Mr. Pierson volunteered; Mr. Benson made a motion to elect Mr. Pierson as Chair; Ms. Barth seconded the motion; and it was unanimously passed. The committee agreed to discuss the position of Vice Chair after consulting with the current Vice Chair.

The Committee reviewed and approved all prior meeting minutes.

The Committee agreed to continue meeting on the third Tuesday as in previous years.

The Committee discussed the proposed letter to the County Executive outlining the County's accomplishments regarding trees and forests. Revisions were made and a final version was reviewed. Ms. Barth motioned to send the final version to the County Executive and a copy to the County Council President; Mr. Plummer seconded the motion; and it was unanimously passed.

Next, the Committee began work on assisting the County with developing planting programs for the new Tree Canopy Law. The Committee agreed to explore planting programs by setting up a panel discussion to review the details of incentive programs for planting trees. To begin to prepare for this panel discussion, Ms. Barth will develop a draft matrix of existing programs.

The following speakers will be asked to hold the date for the May meeting. The committee will provide additional information to the speakers following the April meeting.

- Ms. Nelson will invite speakers from Leaves for Neighborhoods and Shades of Green.
- Mr. Buscaino will invite speakers from RiverSmart Homes and Casey Trees.
- Ms. Barth will invite speakers from Tree Baltimore, Tree Releaf, and Raincheck Rebate.
- Ms. Miller will invite a speaker from the Rainscapes Program.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2014. The agenda will include developing questions for the panel of speakers in order to obtain detailed information including what worked, what didn't work, and why. The proposed agenda for the May meeting includes the panel of speakers. The proposed agenda for the June meeting includes developing recommendations for the first tree plantings using the fees from the Tree Canopy Law.