

District of Columbia Urban Forestry Advisory Council meeting minutes—DRAFT

MEETING CHAIR: Jim Woodworth email: james.woodworth@dc.gov phone: 202.535.2244

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MEETING TITLE: UFAC Fall Meeting, 55 M Street SW (DDOT)

Call to order: 2:30PM, Wednesday, January 22, 2020

Council Members (* if in attendance):

*Steve Saari, DOEE	Perry Wheelock, NPS (phone)	*Nathan McElroy, Pepco (phone)
*Earl Eutsler, DDOT	*Robin Snyder, GSA (phone)	*Dennis Chestnut, comm. rep.
Brent Sisco, DPR	*Maureen Holman, DC Water(phone)	*Delores Bushong, comm. rep.
*Angela Scott, DGS (phone)	*Mark Buscaino, Casey Trees (phone)	*Brenda Richardson, comm. rep.

Invited guests (present or on phone):

Sally Parker, DCPS	Kasey Yturalde, DDOT	Robert Corletta, DDOT
Stephen Gyor, OP	Matt Weber, DOEE	*Nathan Serway, DOEE
Maureen Alonso, GSA	Russell Clark, GSA	*Rob Shaut, Casey Trees
Sally Claggett, USFS	Julie Mawhorter, USFS	Phillip Rodbell, USFS
*Lincoln Smith, Forested LLC	*Deborah Shapley, RMA	*Rebecca Stack, Designgreen LLC
William Chip, RMA	Patrick Campbell, NPS	

Quorum: YES

UFAC Meeting Notes

1. Administrative Issues
 - a. Steve Saari is the new DOEE Agency Rep.
 - b. Angela Scott is the new DGS Rep.
 - c. **Updated contact information has been requested for the new reps.**
2. Minutes from past two meetings have been approved through motion by Delores Bushong, seconded by Brenda Richardson, and unanimous vote.
3. Restore Massachusetts Avenue (RMA): *Dupont Tree Plaza*
 - a. Deborah & Rebecca presenting
 - b. Their project is supported by the Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant
 - c. Currently in the permitting stage of the project
 - d. Main Goal: Adding double rows of trees down historic parts of embassy row/
Mass Ave
 - e. Dupont Tree Plaza

- i. 7,100 ft² of bare sidewalk with current uses: pedestrian, Capitol City Bike Share, PNC Bank, DDOT, DC Water, Dupont Circle Farmers Market
 - ii. Rendering: 3 planting areas that function as bio-retention cells, treating ~1 acre CDA from Connecticut Ave into permeable pavement, tree silva cells and bioretention, drains to the main sewer line.
 - iii. *Schools Without Walls* will partner with RMA and will have integrated curriculum and site visits.
 - iv. Seasonably high water table; required liner.
 - v. Silva Cell System for the tree roots.
 - f. Once they have quotes from construction companies, they can apply for additional construction funds.
 - g. There has been pushback from stakeholders including Capitol City Bike Share and Dupont Circle Farmers Market. RMA is currently trying to address stakeholders concerns and mitigate solutions for their problems.
 - i. Dupont Circle Farmers Market:
 - 1. To address their problems, a decking option was proposed to cover half of the bioretention cell, but this option will cost them storm water credits and require structural engineering.
 - ii. Capitol City Bike Share
 - 1. proposed a double row of bikes around one of the planting areas so that the bike share does not lose any bikes.
 - h. RMA has not selected a builder yet; however they expressed concerns because they have never undertaken a large scale construction project before. They asked for government assistance to construct.
 - i. Steve will discuss with RMA at a later date regarding ongoing maintenance and upkeep of permeable pavers .
4. DDOT Tree Stocking (Earl)
 - a. Public request for tree planting has increased, while the available open space decreased.
 - b. Total trees & spaces (2009) 141,251; 171,246 total trees (2020).
 - c. Currently at 96% stocking level and plan to be at 100% stocking by 2021.
 - d. **It was requested that this presentation be shared on the website because of the informative graphs and figures.**
 - e. Delores and Steve want to follow up with Earl regarding specific cases where they believe that more trees can be planted in the tree boxes.
5. Forested LLC: Lincoln Smith
 - a. Forested's main location is in Bowie Maryland. This 10 acre site is an old corn field that has had native plants with special ecological value with the goal of:

restoring soil health, bringing native pollinators and other insects back into this ecosystem, and educating the public on the value of a native ecosystem and under-utilized native plants for productive food production; Friday service learning opportunities/tours. Annual “dinner party” in June .

- b. Previous and Future Projects
 - i. Hyattsville, Emerson Street – several years old/established
 - ii. Capitol City-Installed
 - iii. Langley ES- Construction Soon
 - iv. Horace Mann-Future construction
- 6. Additional comments – Mark Buscaino & Jess Sanders
 - a. Between 9-11 Heritage Trees are being removed at Kenilworth Court, DC-owned land, being redeveloped via an LLC partnership with DC gov. They are not paying a fine for the removal of the tree’s because sister agencies do not fine other sister agencies.
 - b. There was a lot of concern that developers will continue to skirt heritage and special tree laws by partnering with the government in similar LLCs in the future if they want to conveniently remove heritage trees.
 - c. Comments were made supporting the notion that UFAC is the appropriate venue to discuss effectiveness of trees and advocating for more tree conservation friendly development approaches.
- 7. Meeting adjourned at 4:45pm; next meeting Wednesday, March 25 2020.