



Minutes

Wilmington Tree Commission Regular Meeting

929 N Front St, room 156.7, Wilmington NC

9:30-11:00 a.m., October 16, 2024

Attendance:

Tom Boland, Chair – *Present, in-person*

Catherine Cardamone – *Present, in-person*

Matthew Moore – *Present, virtual*

Alana Seaman – *Present, virtual*

Bridget Callahan – *Present, virtual*

Terri Parham – *Present, in-person*

Dan Camacho, ACFT – *Present, in-person*

Sally Thigpen – *Present, in-person*

Aaron Reese – *Present, virtual*

Haley Hopkins, Secretary – *Present, in-person*

1. Call to order 9:32; Quorum present (6/6).
2. Review and approve minutes from September 18, 2024
Motion to approve September 18, 2024 minutes with additional notes in the Alliance for Cape Fear Trees (Dan Camacho report) by tom Boland, second Cate Cardamone
3. New Commissioner Introduction: Terri Parham
4. Presentation on the [Status of the Urban Forestry Master Plan](#) by Sally Thigpen and Aaron Reese
5. **Heritage Tree and Tree Awards** – Update
 - a. New application received – *All Commissioner interested in participating in measuring, Haley to schedule with applicant and Commissioners*
 - b. Review criteria – *Concern with approving trees in poor health as Heritage Trees*
711 S 2nd St – Denied as a Heritage Tree due to poor condition (6/6 Vote Against)
4213 Princess Pl Dr – Approved as a Heritage Tree due to size (4/6 Vote For)
6. Strategic Planning committee updates.
 - a) **Tree Ordinance and Enforcement**- SMART GOAL: Educate all groups on how tree ordinance works by end of fiscal year 2025 (Committee members Tom and Dan).
 - *Partnering with the ACFT, NHC Planning and CoW Planning on a community meeting to educate the public on the tree regulations and the review process for development*
 - b) **Resource Commitment** – SMART GOAL: Provide support to City and other organizations in the implementation of the Urban Forestry Master Plan (UFMP) (Committee members are Tom who is committee chair, Cathey)
Urban Forest Master Plan – (Sally/Aaron) update on progress of action plans – *See presentation*

- c) **Community Education** – SMART GOAL: Develop an ad hoc committee to identify 3-5 actions/activities to incorp into workplan by end of 2025 (Committee members are Kate, Alana, and Dan Camacho (Alliance for Cape Fear Trees)) - Native Tree list-(Kate) update.
 - *Edits to be made by Cate and Haley regarding the notes for each tree, suggestion to add the leaf silhouette for each tree for identification, suggestion to replace Ginkgo tree on Salt Tolerant list as it is non-native*
 - *Interest in publicizing the lists without ranking ASAP, then asking the community to rank them by their favorites*
- 7. Dan Camacho - Update on activities of the Alliance for Cape Fear Trees
 - a. *Tree Stewards – 22 stewards graduating Oct. 12*
 - b. *Williston Oak Seedling Project – Harvesting acorns Oct. 17 at 10 AM*
 - c. *Grants – ACFT has received 2 grants*
 - d. *Events – Nov 2nd Distribution at Riegelwood NC, Nov 10th Planting*
 - e. *Small tree planting initiative – interested in planting small trees to improve the viability and adaptability of the tree*
- 8. New Business
 - *Officer nominations – Elections of Chair and Vice Chair to be held at Nov. meeting, anyone Commissioner can be nominated, encouraged Commissioners to reach out to Haley and Tom if interested or with questions*
Next Meeting: After elections, holding a workshop to set goals and committees and identify opportunities for Commissioner involvement. The workshop will be in tow parts, split between the Nov. and Jan. meetings.
 - *Tree Planting and Stump grinding contracts*
 - *Technical Standards Public Input – ACFT developing feedback as an organization for the Technical Standards update, would like to involve the Tree Commission*
 - *Upcoming Events: Tree Fest, Jan 17-18, Tom to participate in planning committee*

Next Meeting is at 9:30 am, Wednesday, **November 20, 2024**. The meeting will be hybrid, (via zoom or in person at **929 N Front St. Room 156.7**)

- a) Adjourn – 11:00