



Alpharetta Natural Resources Commission Meeting

JULY 15, 2025

MINUTES

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL

2 PARK PLAZA

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NRC WORK SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. The NRC Work Session and Meeting began at 6:35pm in the First Floor Community Room on July 15, 2025.

2. ROLL CALL

- a. Present were:
Commissioners: Michael Buchanan, Kate Tunison, Vijay Desai, Herb Velazquez, and Ben Manley.
Staff: David Shostak, Terry Porter.

3. WORK SESSION ITEMS

- a. Arborist report
 - i. David will give NRC heads up on new development projects coming up so members can review independently.
 - ii. David will provide information on previously completed projects
 - iii. David mentioned an upcoming 35 acres project, a traditional subdivision on Charlotte Drive, that will result in recompense to be added to the tree fund
 - iv. Mike asked if NRC members as individual residents can conduct reviews of past projects for compliance with the tree code. David will follow up on how/if this is done in other cities, especially from a liability perspective. The current process is voluntary request by a resident so if a resident just cuts down a tree without a permit, there's no way for the city to know unless another resident reports. A volunteer group for these types of activities will help the arborist team's workload.
 - v. Mike asked if the tree fund could be used for some specific items and David responded negatively. Tree bank funds can only be used for planting trees. David mentioned that some other cities use their tree bank to purchase land and then preserve that land.
 - vi. David mentioned that the city is looking to revamp the tree code with the intent of simplifying, hopefully by end of the year. David will bring the new code for review to NRC.

- vii. Vijay asked David to take an action item to find out where the tree bank details can be found in the city code. He also asked what the process is to update the allowed uses.
- b. Environmental Programs update
 - i. No new updates from Terry
 - ii. Mike asked if we want to apply to the Bee City program. Terry mentioned that they have thought about it before. One of the requirements is for a city department and staff position to be designated as the liaison to be responsible for the program and identified in the resolution.

NRC PUBLIC MEETING

Vijay made the motion to approve June meeting minutes, Herb seconded, and it was approved unanimously.

- One unfinished business item was discussed
 - There are member(s) of NRC who have not attended several meetings. The commission asked for information about the rules of continued membership and possible disqualification from the commission due to lack of engagement. David will ask Lauren Shapiro, the city clerk, about the process.
- There was no new business.
- Meeting ended at 7:35pm