



NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

Council Chamber
City Hall
2 Park Plaza

7:00 PM

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
 - a. August Minutes
- IV. STAFF REPORTS
 - a. Arborist Report
 - b. Environmental Programs
- V. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. Programs
 - 1. Programs currently under Discussion and/or Planning
 - a. Educational Program regarding Snakes in our area
 - b. Sip & Stroll Under the Trees
 - c. Beneficial Insects Program
 - d. Green Infrastructure
 - e. Arbor Day 2019
 - f. Employing sustainable landscape management techniques in parks
 - b. Communications
 - c. Budget
 - 1. FY 2020 Priorities
- VI. NEXT MEETING DATE
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

Alpharetta Natural Resources Commission

Meeting Minutes - August 20, 2019

Call to Order

A meeting of the Alpharetta Natural Resources Commission was held at City Hall on August 20, 2019. Attendees: Deb Zemlock (Chair), Geri Chapple, Cat Fisher, Ben Manley, Kate Tunison, Terry Porter (Staff), and David Shostak (Staff).

Approval of Minutes

July 2019 Meeting Minutes were accepted unanimously by the Commission.

Staff Reports

- **Arborist Report**

- October 18 - Tree planting of donated trees gifted through the Arbor Day Foundation; five trees were gifted - 3 overstory and 2 ornamental; will be planted by the five black gums located by the Publix next to City Hall; DS will need to follow-up to get more details
- Sip 'n Stroll - Looking at either October 3rd or October 10th with a start time around 6:30 PM
 - DZ talked to Chamber about their experience of planning the Sip, Stroll, and Shop; Kale Me Crazy's Philip is a green thumb and may be interested in helping promote; would also like to consider partnering with Fermented
 - DS concerned about crowd crossing Highway 9; would like the event on City Hall side of Highway 9; Brook Street Park has better trees
 - DZ, KT, and CF suggested utilizing local businesses to cross promote the event; DZ will talk to local businesses to see if anyone is interested in cross-promoting
 - CF will create promotional materials once details are finalized

- **Environmental Programs**

- Saturday, August 24th - Vegetable Gardening workshop at the Farm; 69 people have signed up to attend the event; need volunteers
- September 28 - Rivers Alive; Datascan donated \$1,500 to go towards expenses of the event with no restrictions; will be staged at Rock Mill Park - key projects include redoing the models and re-mulching
 - Audubon Project will also be on the same day
 - The idea presented by GC to "clean up" local cemeteries was researched; TP reported that it can not be done because most of the work that needs to be done is private property
 - TP will discuss with Jill Bazinet about the idea of creating a bioswale at Cogburn Road Park as part of Rivers Alive
 - KT, DZ, Arata Wantanabe, and Terry Schiff indicated they will volunteer

Committee Reports

- **Events**

- Snake Event
 - CF waiting on hearing back from Jerry Hightower; TP suggested a back-up if JH can't
- "Gardening for Birds" Event
 - KT would like to have it in March 2020 possibility at Mansell House
- Beneficial Insects" Event
 - Event prior to Halloween; AW suggested Becky Griffen as the presenter; DZ will follow-up with Jill to see if she contacted Lisa Simpson to present; GC to lead
- Green Infrastructure
 - DZ to follow-up with DS on progress
- Arbor Day 2020
 - As a new way to celebrate Arbor Day that encourages residents to plant trees on their own property, NRC will hold a tree sale event this fall. Approximately five tree varieties will be offered in a 5-7 gallon size on a pre-order basis. Trees will be made available for pick-up in early spring at a specified location.
- Sustainable Landscape Maintenance Practices for Parks
 - KT suggests that the NRC sponsor a pilot program to study the effects of alternative weed control methods; she is concerned about the on-going use of Round-up to kill weeds in City Parks, especially around the Community Garden
 - DS suggested partnering with a University Extension program to develop the methodology and conduct the study

- **Communications**

- No updates

- **Budget**

- BM reported that there is approximately \$1,822 left in NRC budget
 - Expense is \$89 / six months for Meet-up
- CF suggested using some of the money available for pencils that you can plant

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2019, at City Hall.

Alpharetta Natural Resources Commission

Public meeting August 20, 2019

Environmental Programs Coordinator Report – Terry Porter

Upcoming Public Offerings

9/25/19	Gardening in the Shade Alpharetta Public Works Department 1790 Hembree Road, Alpharetta, Ga., 30009	7:00pm – 8:30pm
09/28/19	Rivers Alive Rock Mill Park Staging area	8:30am - Noon
10/09/19	Composting Alpharetta Public Works Department 1790 Hembree Road, Alpharetta, Ga., 30009	7:00pm – 8:30pm