



County of Albemarle

Natural Heritage Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 7, 2023 – Room 235, 5:30 p.m.,.

1. Call to order (1 min)
2. Establish a Quorum (1) - Members present Christine, Peggy, Mona, Dan, Abigail, Lily, Meghan
 - a. Absent; Michael, Lonnie, Leah
3. Welcome/Acknowledge guests (5)
 - a. Guests Laurel Williamson, Tim Patalino, Jessie Wingo, Tom, Rob McGinnis, Diane Szaflarski, Friend of Christine's (check in about name), James
4. Review agenda and approve (1)
 - a. *Peggy Cornett moves to approve the agenda, Lilly seconds the motion. The motion is unanimously approved by the committee.*
5. Review and approve August minutes (1)
 - a. *Peggy moves to approve the August meeting minutes, Mona seconds the motion. The motion is unanimously approved by the committee.*
6. Other matters not listed on the agenda from the public (3)
 - a. Rob from PEC update; spoke in front of the BOS recommending a new rural area plan. 2015 comp plan had a chapter on rural development, this is no longer part of the comp plan. PEC would like to see a chapter on rural development under land use and transportation for rural development.
 - b. Tom thanks those that attended and spoke up at the Board meeting valuing open spaces on September 6, 2023.
7. Biscuit Run Stream Restoration Update (Laurel Williamson, FES; Jessie Wingo and Tim Padalino, Parks & Recreation)

- a. Tim P, discusses Biscuit Run Park development and the stream restoration project.
 - b. Jessie updates on natural vegetation and invasive species management.
 - c. Laurel discusses the stream restoration project that is planned in the northern section of the park. There is a one mile stretch that the County plans on doing a stream restoration project for.
8. Follow-Ups:
- i. No updates at this time.
9. Staff update (10): Scott Clark
- a. Stream health initiative; steam bank buffer overlay. Working on condensing the feedback. Planning commission working section on Set 26th. Has quite a few rewrites to do based on community feedback and planning commission feedback
 - b. Committee input for the comp plan is scheduled for later in October and Dec. County employees are trying to ensure the past rural area policies are in the new comp plan.
10. Future budget proposals- next action steps (15)
- a. Invasive plant management (Christine, Meghan, and Peggy)
 - i. Christine send out a draft letter to the committee to send to the BOS
 - ii. *Lily moves to send the letter to select individuals and the BOS with Scotts recommendations. Peggy seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously*
11. Working Group & Member Reports
- a. Education and Outreach (3)
 - i. Mona will be working with her students about solar panels in Charlottesville and Albemarle County. Students will analyze grey fields as a site for solar farms.
12. Adjournment
- a. Meeting adjourns at 7:05pm

Next NHC Meeting: October 5, 2023 at 5:30pm