

.CATS ZOOM Board Meeting
February 1, 2021

Attendance: Barbara White, Robin Hanes, Rachel Keen, Michelle Cormier, Toine Wyckoff, Penny Kaiserlian, Martha Orton, Tim Maywalt, Mary Spear, Kathy Nepote, Mark Zollinhofer, Libby Gretz

President's Welcome

OFFICER'S REPORTS

Secretary- Toine Wyckoff
Minutes approved

President's Report- Barbara White

Discussions have begun with the Charlottesville Tree Commission and CATS in regard to another "Belmont" type tree planting in areas that CTC has identified as low canopy which is 20% or less. An area Robin and Peggy Van Yahres (CTC) visited earlier is Franklin Street. Barbara and a few other CATS will walk Franklin Street on 2/3/21 to get a sense of the potential of tree plantings there. Barbara emphasizes again that at this point, a joint planting is only in the discussion phase.

Helen Gregory will offer Zoom tutorial for members at ZoomForCATS Members-YouTube. An email has been sent to those interested in hosting an event.

Past President-Rachel Keen
No updates

President-Elect- Robin Hanes
No updates

Treasury-Michelle Cormier

Income.		Money Market Account: \$20,131.64
Interest	\$.17	
Donations.	635.00	
Membership Dues	<u>1,300.00</u>	Checking Account Balance: \$ <u>5,247.15</u>
	1,935.17	
Expense	- 249.00 (Admin. subscriptions)	
Net Income	\$ 1,685.17	

Michelle set up a Quick Book file and will meet with Barbara to add a grant category. She is working with Tim and Kathy on paying debts using the credit card. Michelle has the credit card and Barbara has the debit card. Michelle will contact Zoom pro regarding their policy on non-profits paying tax on the programs.

The 2020 Budget Review along with the 2021 Draft Budget proposal was sent via email to all board members prior to this meeting. There were no questions regarding the 2020 budget review however; there was considerable discussion regarding the 2021 Budget proposal with a projected deficit of \$12,000. Due to the 2020 pandemic from March-December, prominent losses of revenue included \$4,000 for the cancelled Tree Steward Training class and 2 public tree sales. A tree sale in the fall for members only brought in \$2,244.00.

Barbara suggested looking for ways to lower the debt. A few suggestions discussed were: raising the cost of the Tree Steward Training class from \$125 to \$160; include a “donate here” button on the CAT’S website; request a “pay what you can” donation in order to take on-line Tree Basics Classes; offer a PayPal option on the website; use grants to buy trees for training class. Tim and Mary will take suggestions to Education committee meeting and report back to the Board in March.

Barbara proposed passing the Budget as presented with the addition of a category of Tree Sale supplies in the amount of \$1000.00. The Budget vote passed unanimously.

Tree Commission Report-Mark Zollinhofer

Mark will meet tomorrow with CTC and a few CATS members for the walk on Franklin Street. Two other neighborhoods under 20% canopy, Star Hill and 10th and Page, are also generating interest as possible tree plantings areas. Arbor Day will be celebrated April 30 and CTC assigned Mark to be point on this. CATS has partnered in this community celebration for years with Robin Hanes organizing the event. CTC was able to make their comprehensive Tree report to the Charlottesville city council on January 11, 2021.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Projects-Kathy Nepote

There are projects scheduled throughout February which are listed on TIF. No projects have been scheduled for March at this time, but weather cancellations this month could affect the March calendar.

Education-Mary Spear. Tim Maywalt

Mary asked for suggestions for speakers’ gifts. In the past when meetings were in person, a handmade wooden pen valued at \$25 was given as a thank you gift to each speaker; however, in this day of virtual presentations, sending gifts to speakers has become more time consuming and costly. It was agreed that a generic gift card would be appropriate for non-local speakers and that Education would decide whether they wanted to give gift cards or pens to local speakers.

Tim reports that member meetings with speakers have been scheduled for the next 4 months and Tree Basics classes have schedules in place for the next six months. Tom Wild will speak at the February 25 meeting giving an update on the American Chestnut Foundation’s efforts to restore the American Chestnut. Tree Basics classes’ slideshows are now posted to the CATS website for reference purposes. Anyone interested in assisting in developing one or more

virtual tree walks that can be used for public education during this time of COVID needs to contact Peyton Williams.

The Tree Steward Class work group continues to look to delivery of the class this fall assuming COVID permits.

The OLLI Zoom class "Tree Blindness" that several members of Education have created will be offered Tuesdays April 6 through May 18 with a possible outdoor walk for the last class.

Registration is open at OLLI.com Charlottesville and costs \$77.

The development of a CATS Photo Library continues.

Communications-Penny Kaiserlian, Martha Orton

Parks and Recreation have announced a Landmark Tree Photo Safari competition to be held. This competition begins with a visit to the Notable Trees website which CATS developed.

Instructions on how to participate in this Safari can be found on Parks and Recreation website.

Michelle Collier is working with Chad on PayPal for upcoming Tree Sales

Martha renewed google for non-profits and is working with Michelle to link a "donate" button to CATS Facebook page. Over 1000 people have viewed the CATS FB page and we have 720 followers.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CATS Zoom account has been purchased for \$150.00/ year

CATS Photo Sharing. SmugMug was purchased by Education

Volunteer Waiver Revision

The revision was adopted with the proposed language which amended the original waiver. As this cannot be retroactive, it will be discussed with new people who take pictures and will need to be signed by them. Tim and Mary will do a write up to send to Barbara and Libby for emails, the blast and membership meeting.

Logo Update

Mary Spear has done an update of the CATS logo for the website.

NEXT MEETING- Virtual Zoom meeting March 1, 2021 1:00-3:00

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,
Toine Wyckoff