

April 5, 2021 CAT'S Board Meeting Minutes
Virtual meeting on Zoom

Attending: Barbara White, Robin Hanes, Rachel Keen, Penny Kaiserlian, Michelle Cormier, Tim Maywalt, Mary Spear, Kathy Nepote, Mark Zollinhofer, Toine Wyckoff, Kendra Hall, William Hammersky

Presidents Welcome to Zoom virtual Board Meeting

Secretary: Toine Wyckoff
March Board minutes approved

President's Report: Barbara White
By-laws reconciliation

Jackie Vawter and Martha Orton have agreed to cross reference the updated CATS Organizational document with the by-laws.

PVCC Memory Tree

CATS received an inquiry to the website asking if we would plant a memorial tree in honor of Beryl Solla, a professor in the Art department at PVCC who had listed CATS as "one of her favorite charities" Penny discussed the issue with the Committee Chairs since we have not done memorial trees before. Mary Spear knew Ms. Solla and offered to pursue the matter with PVCC. After discussion with PVCC, it was agreed that CATS would plant a flowering tree on the grounds of PVCC adjacent to the lake. A donation of \$200 was made to CATS from Mr. Richard Yasko and Ms. Angels Curreri plus an additional \$100 from Jana Mason and \$100 from Tim and Virginia Michel to plant this tree. Acknowledgement of these memory gifts will be sent to the family

Past-President: Rachel Keen

Rachel inquired about a date for the recognition of the Founders Tree planted at the CATS nursery at VDOF. It was agreed that once signage was completed, a date could be set for the commemoration. Barbara will do a mockup of the sign with the founders' names, email to Board members for approval and send on to HighTech sign company. The end of May was thought to be a good time to have this event.

OLLI Class: 28 people have signed up for the online class scheduled to begin April 6.

Tom Wild and Donna Vinal have a series of videos they prepared for the Piedmont Botanical Garden and will use these for the final class virtual tree walk.

President-Elect: Robin Hanes

Robin has two meetings tomorrow regarding the Arbor Day celebrations and is considering changing the date to Thursday April 29 as all schools are currently closed on Fridays. This change will present less problems for the students in getting back to school on May 30. Robin will reach out to local media to make sure someone is available to cover this event at Walker.

All CATS are invited to Maplewood Cemetery to celebrate this year's Landmark Tree- an outstanding Post Oak at 12:30 on April 29. The cemetery which dates back to late 1700's is beautiful and interesting to explore. Anyone coming is encouraged to bring blankets, refreshments and enjoy this celebration. Rain date is Monday May 3 at 12:30.

Treasury: Michelle Cormier

Treasury report with all accounts' information was mailed to all Board Members prior to this Meeting. Michelle requested input from members regarding how they would like to see these financial reports going forward-keep as is or less information.

Current Assets:

Checking/Savings

Sun Trust Checking	\$ 9,313.57
SunTrust Money Market	<u>20 131.96</u>
Total	\$ 29,445.53

Profit/Loss

Income:

Grants	\$2,500
Donations	400
Membership dues	300
Total Income	\$3,200

Expense:

Communication	\$ 30
Education	134
Total Expense	\$ 164

Net Income **\$ 3,036**

Tree Commission Report: Mark Zolinhoefer

The CTC meets tomorrow (4/6/21) and most urgent on the agenda is the codes and practices of City contractors. The Commission has been diligently working to have the City council approve the CTC recommendations. Another important study is how to take care of the aging trees that line the Downtown Mall.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Projects: Kathy Nepote

Always check calendar for project dates.

April 3/21 Jackson- Via Removed invasive vines and planting of ground cover

April 8/21 Jackson Burley Remove and clear Invasive plants

April 14/21 Projects virtual meeting 9-10:30

Education: Tim Maywalt and Mary Spear

Membership speaker for April 28 is Chandler Van Voorhis, a widely acknowledged leading expert in conservation and ecological markets. His talk is titled The Genius of Nature.

Plans continue towards a fall Tree Steward class with the transitioning to online work products. The contractor is helping with class preparations on Moodle which was purchased @ \$150 for a year subscription.

Communications: Penny Kaiserlian and Martha Orton

Membership: \$2000 has been received from 100 members; however, there are 142 members listed. Libby will reach out to those members who have not paid.

PayPal was discussed as an option for membership dues and Board agreed it was a good idea to look into. Penny will discuss with Michelle Cormier whether her husband Chris could set up PayPal for this purpose.

Unfinished Business:

10th and Paige Street- Kendra Hall and William Hamersky

A project proposal was sent to all Board Members prior to this meeting. The basic idea is to partner with City of Promise as they add a Reading Tree to their porch, CATS would add a Reading tree and/or bench to benefit the other areas of the neighborhood. At this time, it is not clear what the community wants as far as trees or another reading tree. Kendra and William attended an HOA meeting with only 3 persons present. The HOA president was happy to have a tree for her yard. On Thursday April 8, Kendra and City Arborist, Mike Royane will walk around the area to locate City property which could be used for a tree planting. CTC members, Peggy Van Yahres, Roxanne White and Mike Royane are working with Kendra and William as well as Jeremy Caplin. Caplin owns around 70 houses in the neighborhood and has slowly been restoring, rehabbing and remodeling these boarded up homes over the past 30 years. The homes are rented for an average of \$500-\$600 a month and are not rented to students nor advertised. Kendra calls Caplin the "unofficial" mayor of this area. This proposal is at the very beginning stages and very much in flux. As William said there is "no pushing". More reach out will continue with Caplin introducing Kendra and William to discussions with the community in determining what it is they want.

Donate Button Michelle Cormier

Michelle's husband Chris has done a mock-up of the donate button on the website. Chad Denby who manages our website, has said this would take about an hour to install and cost around \$60. Barbara read the new verbiage that would indicate what the donation to CATS supports. The Board gave the approval to send the new verbiage related to Donate Button and go ahead with plans to have it added to the website.

Tree Sale. Robin

Everything is going quite well with plans for tree sale to be held April 16 at VDOF. CDC protocols will be followed as was done for the Fall tree sale.

New Business:

MOU & MOA from CPRD

Barbara has talked with CATS insurance agent regarding needed insurance for the shed and tools which are on City property.

Barbara will continue to reach out to Chris Gensic regarding other aspects of the MOU and MOA.

Memorial Tree:

Should CATS develop a program to provide this service?

Tim, Mary, Robin and Kathy will meet to look at pros/cons of developing a program for planting Memorial Trees and what that policy would look like.

Adjourned 3:00

May 3, 2021 Virtual Zoom Board Meeting 1:00-3:00

Respectfully submitted,
Toine Wyckoff