

October 27, 2021 Membership Meeting  
In person at VDOF  
and on Zoom (18 participants)

Guest speaker: Tim Beatley, Professor at UVA's Urban and Environmental Planning Department. His topic will be "Cities that Love Nature: Why All Cities In the Future must be Biophilic".

Professor Beatley began his talk with the definition of the term "Biophilia"-the innately emotional affiliation of human beings to other living organisms. Innate means hereditary and hence part of ultimate human nature. This definition is attributed to E.O. White as well as the quote "Human Species has grown up in Nature". This is the heart of maintaining nature in our urban environments and the Biophilic Cities Designation.

Nature has been associated with lower depression and stress levels, improve mood and increase happiness, increase physical activity, lower crime and reduce gun violence, reduce social isolation lower childhood asthma, higher cognitive performance, higher school test scores, greater generosity, greater cooperation, increased laughter and joy. Nature inspires hope.

Professor Beatley showed slides of inspiring biophilic cities around the world that are working to protect and restore nature by putting the natural world (including trees) at the center of urban life. A few of these American cities were Pittsburg, San Francisco, St. Louis and Richmond.

There were many questions from the zoom participants as well as in person members, but due to time, the questions could not be taken. However, it seemed apparent that another speaking date would be very much appreciated as there is much more to learn and questions to ask.

#### Business Meeting:

Treasury Report: Michelle Cormier

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Income (ytd)   | \$18,116 |
| Expenses (ytd) | 9,430    |
| Money Market   | 28,133   |
| Petty cash     | 100      |

President-Elect: Robin Hanes

Robin has been finding potential candidates for open positions on the board for 2022; however, she has not found someone to take over Communication Chair. She described the responsibilities that this position would entail and beseeched members to please step forward to volunteer.

Education: Tim Maywalt

The last field session of the fall Tree Steward class will be October 30 with planting of 20 trees at Darden Towe. Tree Stewards planted 17 trees at Darden Towe on October 23 as a dry

run for their role as team leaders with the student planting. Graduation for the class will be November 13. Students have helped at the tree sale and at the CATS arboretum cleanup. Tree Basics will use 3 days to teach about invasive Plants: 11/2 (Tuesday) identification-zoom 7-9 pm, 11/4(Thursday) Control Methods-zoom 7-9 pm and 11/6(Saturday morning)the third day will be a field session at Azalea Park, 10-12am. Check with TIF to see what has been scheduled.

Projects: Kathy Nepote

There were 6 projects in October with new students participating as well as members glad to be back. The following are scheduled in November.

11/4. Greenleaf Park-cleaning up and mulching

11/16 Potting Party at CATS nursery

11/20 Jackson Burley-clean up

November-Pruning and treating invasive plants will alternate on Saturdays during the month

Communications: Penny Kaiserlian

The public mailing list is 940 names with 60 of those joining this year from outside the CATS area.

Library: Phyllis Johansen

Phyllis informed membership that the library is being re-activated and described exactly where and how to access the library that is housed at VDOF. Explanations were given how to unlock the cabinet that holds the books and related articles. Also, Phyllis asked for donations of tree books. A student from the fall class has expressed interest in coming on board as Librarian and will do so at the end of this month.

November Membership meeting will be one week earlier, November 17, thereby bypassing Thanksgiving week. It is not clear at this time if that meeting will be a zoom meeting or in-person. Membership will be notified.

Meeting adjourned. Everyone was invited to walk to the nursery for the Founders Tree Dedication.

Founders Day Dedication

On this beautiful fall day, Barbara welcomed CATS members, VDOF personnel, and guests to this celebration of the Founders of the Charlottesville Area Tree Stewards. Of the 14 Founders whose names are inscribed on the plaque at the base of the Hackberry tree planted in their honor, those in attendance were: Jackie Vawter, Phil Stokes, Leslie Weinhardt, Dorothy Tompkins, Pat Schatterly, Terri Keffert, and Jack O'Leary. Rob Farrell, State Forester who serves as the director of the Virginia Department of Forestry took a few minutes to congratulate and thank the Founders for their initiative in establishing a tree steward volunteer organization in Charlottesville. He noted the special relationship that VDOF has had with CATS over the years and now, sharing space with the CATS tree nursery. Many pictures were taken and there was much catching up as folks enjoyed the refreshments set up in the nursery.