

**BERRYVILLE TREE BOARD**  
**Berryville-Clarke County Government Center**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 5, 2017**

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The meeting of the Berryville Tree Board was held on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Berryville – Clarke County Government Center located at 101 Chalmers Court in Berryville, Virginia.

**ATTENDANCE:** Members present: Julie Abrera, Kathy Birch, J. Bryant Condrey, Kara Rodriguez, Sharon Strickland

Staff present: Christy Dunkle, Assistant Town Manager/Planner

Others present: Mayor Patricia Dickinson

Press present: none

Chair Condrey called the meeting to order at 7:31pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Birch moved to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2017 meeting, seconded by Ms. Rodriguez, the motion passed by voice vote.

**DISCUSSION – VISION, MISSION, GOALS**

Chair Condrey discussed the information he and Ms. Birch forwarded to staff concerning vision, mission, and goals. Ms. Abrera recommended identifying short-term and long-term goals. Chair Condrey requested that the Board identify and prioritize potential projects. There was a discussion about the Clarke County Public Schools' trees and maintenance of existing trees on school properties. There was a discussion about the Town's tree canopy. Chair Condrey said he could identify the tree canopy using Google Earth. Ms. Rodriguez said that future developable areas should also be identified.

Mayor Dickinson said that the Board should not limit their efforts to public properties. There was a discussion about identifying and recognizing landmark trees. Chair Condrey suggested that an estimate of varieties of trees should be conducted as well as identifying at-risk trees. There was a discussion about invasive plants and the meaning of native plant species as it applies to the urban environment.

There was a discussion about narrowing the Board's mission statement to one or two sentences. It was determined that the draft mission statement is:

*Identify opportunities for public and private investment in protection and proliferation of the tree canopy in the Town of Berryville.*

Board members discussed an educational component to the group including native plant information and a page on the Town website offering resource links and information about community groups and organizations.

Ms. Abrera suggested that the mission focus on the tree canopy and a few related items and to advocate, enhance, assist, and educate Town residents about the importance of trees.

A draft vision statement was recommended as follows:

*The vision of the Tree Board is for the Town of Berryville to be noted for tree advocacy and a commitment to maintaining, protecting, and enhancing the Town's diverse tree canopy.*

Other goals identified at the meeting include:

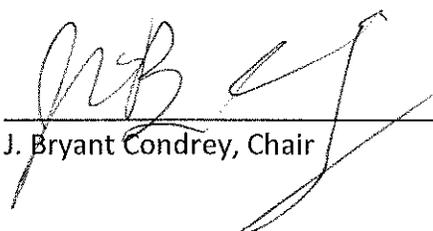
- Entrance beautification;
- Canopy survey;
- Partnerships and programs;
- Develop an adopt-a-tree program;
- Create a resource list for the Town's website;
- Apply for Tree City USA designation;
- Tree variety survey;
- Create a resource list of local volunteer organizations (Habitat for Humanity, Master Gardeners, churches, scouts) and projects that would be appropriate for the respective group

Ms. Abrera reiterated from the previous meeting that Berryville Main Street is tasked with maintaining street trees originally planted by the organization. She added that the organization has budgeted for a project in Hogan's Alley that would be a good start for the Tree Board. There was a discussion about the Page Street median and the number of people who would benefit from the respective projects.

Chair Condrey requested that members forward additional goals to staff prior to the next meeting. He added that the Board could prioritize the goals at the next meeting. Mayor Dickinson requested that Chair Condrey make a presentation to Town Council on the Board's efforts at the September Council meeting.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further business, Ms. Rodriguez made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Birch, the motion passed by voice vote at 8:40pm.

  
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J. Bryant Condrey, Chair

  
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Christy Dunkle, Recording Secretary