

Minutes, Eco-Friendly Landscape Committee  
June 24, 2020, 7 pm

*“Protect, maintain and enhance the conservation of the neighborhood’s natural and scenic resources.”*

Welcome and introductions

Attending via Zoom

TR O’Neill, host; Denise Frizzell, Joe and Cat Moran (Homeplace III); Lucas Blair, Violette Blumenthal, Scott Carter, Leslie Fiddler, Pat Murray, Lynn Richardson, Corey Yarborough (Rantos)

Lynn was congratulated on the June 17 presentation of “Biodiversity begins at Home” at the NC Botanical Garden’s lunchbox series. The talk offers a comprehensive overview of the first year’s EFLC work. Here’s the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGhOzTwSovQ&feature=youtu.be>.

The secretary position remains open. The committee agreed to meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every other month, on even months.

Updates

**Invasive pilot plant project.** Lynn reported that this project has been interrupted by staff changes at the Treeist. She expects that it will soon recommence. Scott volunteered to help with the GIS preparatory work.

Projects and activities for 20/21

**Education** Lynn will continue to write the newsletter. In addition to being distributed in Woodcroft Trees Durham will also share it with their members. Lynn will present her talk for Trees Durham on July 2 and the Piedmont Patch on Sept. 26

**Planting native**

The fall and spring plant sales will continue. To date 375 native plants have been sold to Woodcroft residents.

Trinity Grace Church, 5001 Tudor Place has given Woodcroft 5 indeterminate coneflowers, 2 black eyed susans and 27 Maryland Asters. Mary Mace helped with the transplanting; Leslie and Violette are nursing the transplants. Lynn will write a story about the church’s native plant gardens for the upcoming newsletter.

There were three sites suggested as future native flower beds: the Power Line right of way; the grassy knoll at Highgate; and a mulched area between the Swim and Tennis Club and the Parkway.

Corey said that Rantos is looking for native plants appropriate for median islands. Leslie has provided a plant list via TR.

**Volunteer Invasive Removal** Ivy League. Leslie has stepped down as lead hand. She was not replaced.

#### New projects

##### **Erosion initiative**

Corey volunteered to show Leslie erosion sites. Durham Soil and Water Conservation will be invited to view them, with an eye to partial funding of erosion control planting. Lynn offered to share a list of native alternatives to lirioppe.

Representing Homeplace III Denise Frizzel then spoke. TR confirmed that Woodcroft maintains 6' on either side of all trails. TR accepted Denise's offer to share the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District's erosion planting report, with a cc to the meeting chair. Denise said that HPIII seeks support from the master/mother HOA with their erosion issues.

**Woodcroft Parkway linear native plant arboretum** project is on hold.

**Durham Wetland Park.** Pat Murray spoke to the existence of the former site of a City pumping station, cleared, and offering a location for a wetland park. The parcel is adjacent to Woodcroft's Community Garden and the Swim and Tennis Club's playing fields, and is accessed off Rte. 54. The EFLC agreed to write a letter supporting an initiative to create a City Wetland Park there.

#### Announcements

The new main library's landscape is a Piedmont Prairie

Woodcroft residents are welcome to visit the native plant garden at Trinity Grace Church, 5001 Tudor, off Hwy 54. Look for the red banners on either side of the driveway.

**Next Meeting Wednesday, August 26, 7 pm via zoom**