

University Park Tree Committee Meeting Notes

February 28, 2013, 7:00 - 8:15 pm

Town Hall

Attendees: Mayor John Tabori, Lindsay Hicks (chair), Chris Aubry, Roy Alvarez (Town Council Representative Ward 7 and Tree Committee liaison), Karen Sondak, Linda Strickman

Agenda

1. Review and discuss Linda Verrill's edited list of trees on the Town's Approved Shade Tree List if available.

We were able to review the list and all approve of the edits.

Lindsay will make slight changes and send the list to Tracey for posting on Town website.

2. Discuss a method for making changes to the list-who and by what standards.

Chris Aubry has offered to make additions to the list and will use the Casey Trees list as a guide. He will get the document from Linda Verrill in order to do so.

3. Hear from Chris Aubry about the ivy removal. Establish future dates and times for ivy removal.

Three people worked on ivy removal, two of them Tree Committee members.

Karen offered to run a session on Sunday, March 24 (this is a date change from the meeting) from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm near the tennis courts on Queens Chapel Road.

The mayor has a good contact for scouts in town that might be interested in this project.

Lindsay will contact him for the info.

Lindsay will add note to notice that we would welcome a group to sponsor an area.

4. Get information from Public works on the number of trees that have been planted under the Tree Reimbursement program.

Lindsay will email Mickey.

5. Pursue the idea of providing information for residents on smaller trees.

Karen will work on this.

6. Follow up the idea sent to Lindsay by resident who would like information on invasive plants posted on town web site. Is this a Tree Committee area?

Lindsay will post information on the website about invasive plants that affect trees.

7. Discuss mayor's tree planting initiative.

The mayor would like the Committee to work on a plan to maintain or increase the Town's urban forest for the long term. Issues include educating the public about the value of trees, economic and otherwise. Some ideas discussed are to increase the amount of funds per tree allowed for the Shade Tree Reimbursement Program; to offer the service of having the Public Works Department replant trees by creating a bulk contract with a tree-planting service; and to create a Tree Ordinance.

Roy will research **tree ordinances such as the one from Takoma Park.**

Chris will research an equation for determining the value of trees in the landscape.

8. Report from Roy on Pepco tree trimming and removal.

A permit has been issued to Pepco for tree removal and they have begun this work. The town Arborist or his representative is with the contractor at all times.

For tree pruning, Pepco will prune only trees that are not Bradford pears, and will be accompanied by the arborist or his representative at all times.

The town will contract with Adirondack to prune the Bradford pear trees.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 28, 2013, 7:00 pm at Town Hall