

**Town of University Park  
Tree Committee Meeting Minutes  
Town Hall, 6724 Baltimore Avenue  
Wednesday, 13 August 2014; 7:00 PM**

Attendees: Members Chris Aubry, Alice Leaderman, Lindsay Hicks, Karen Sondak, and Beth Alvarez. Tree Committee Liaison Roy Alvarez.

1. **Welcome new members:** Alice Leaderman was welcomed to the Committee. Jo Williams was welcomed in absentia.
2. **Report from Town Council meeting, 8/11/14:** Mr. Aubry and Mr. Alvarez reported to the Town Council on Monday, 8/11/14, providing a summary of the proceedings and outcomes of the June 5<sup>th</sup> Public Forum regarding the proposed town-wide tree ordinance. Council and Mayor directed the committee not to pursue the ordinance and to focus instead on educational activities.
3. **Draft appeal to Mayor/Public Works for increased participation by committee in street tree selection & planting:** Ms. Hicks completed a draft and members will pass electronically for comment/revisions. Mr. Alvarez will schedule a meeting with Mayor Carey, Mr. Beall, when Committee has finalized the draft.
4. **Ivy League: August's session, future sessions:** An Ivy League event was held on Saturday, August 2. Mr. Alvarez, Ms. Alvarez, Ms. Lynne Davidson, Ms. Joanne Fletcher, and Mr. Aubry participated. The area in the SW corner of the Town Park, north of Queen's Chapel Road, adjacent to the Little Free Library was addressed. Progress beyond the backstop was made. Mr. Beall's workers picked up debris per Mr. Aubry's request.

September's Ivy League event will be on Saturday, 9/20/14, 9-11AM, in the alley running between the back of the houses facing 44th Ave and Baltimore Ave, north of Van Buren, south of Town Hall. Mr. Alvarez reported Ms. Arlene Christiansen had responded to his request for volunteers; he will follow up and ask her to further pursue. Mr. Aubry reported he'd been in touch with BSA Troop 214's Asst. Scoutmaster Sanderson, who agreed to announce the opportunity at the next scout meeting. Mr. Aubry will advertise via the listserv. Committee members were encouraged to spread the word to neighbors and friends.

Ms. Lindsay distributed copies of a UDC Extension bulletin for English Ivy. The committee agreed it would be useful to distribute this to increase Ivy League participation.

5. **Selection of Ivy League's graphic, branding discussion:** Members decided the graphic would best be utilized to brand the committee in general, vs. the Ivy League specifically. One design was selected for general purposes and will be modified for the Ivy League bandana, which will be "earned" when volunteers attend multiple Ivy League sessions. Various uses of the graphic were discussed, including Newsletter, emails, and signage on location in advance of Ivy League sessions.
6. **Old Business**
  - Holly Hill, Oakridge: Members agreed to meet at corner of Holly Hill & Oakridge on Saturday, 8/16, to recommend street tree selection.
  - Town-wide tree inventory:

- Though Ordinance has been tabled indefinitely, a comprehensive inventory of the town's trees is still of interest. The committee discussed the merits of such an inventory. Further discussion will ensue.
- Mayor Carey's suggestion for an infrared aerial "canopy snapshot" was discussed. Though such an inventory provides a benchmark for overall percent of vegetation, it has its limitations, as species, health, and size are not captured.
- Mr. Alvarez agreed to determine the currency of the town's public tree inventory. He mentioned that Mr. Beall had made an update for most streets during the PEPCO plantings of 2012-2013; that update does not include trees in parks or along Wells Run.

## **7. New Business**

- *Clean Up Green Up*, 10/18/14, is a county program making available trees, flowers, bulbs, and litter removal materials for successful applicants. Mr. Beall has indicated he will apply on behalf of UP provided he has volunteer support. The committee agreed to provide volunteers to this initiative.
- Future newsletter articles were proposed, including obtaining free estimates for tree work, distinction between free estimates and working with consulting arborists, and how ivy damages trees.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 10 September, Town Hall, 7-8:30PM

*Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM*