

**Town of University Park
Tree Committee Meeting Minutes
Town Hall, 6724 Baltimore Avenue
Wednesday, 10 September 2014; 7:00 PM**

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

- 1. Report on 8/16 Survey of Holly Hill/Oakridge:** On Saturday, 16 August, 1:00-2:30 PM, committee members Alvarez, Aubry, Leaderman, Sondak, and Williams met at the corner of Holly Hill and Oakridge and completed a comprehensive survey of recommended street tree needs for both streets. The survey was subsequently compiled and distributed for comment then provided to DPW Director Beall. Mr. Aubry reported that Director Beall was pleased with the committee's survey and that he would seek guidance on selection specifics, presumably from homeowners.
- 2. Draft appeal to Mayor/Public Works for increased participation by committee in street tree selection & planting:** It was determined that the draft would need revision and restructuring. Ms. Alvarez suggested that it be considered a document outlining talking points. Mr. Aubry agreed to reorganize and disseminate for comment. Ideally Mr. Aubry and Mr. Alvarez will meet with Mayor Carey and Director Beall within the next two weeks.
- 3. Report on Status of Tree ReLeaf grant application:** Via an e-mail to Mr. Aubry on August 14th, Mr. Beall made known a funding opportunity to Mr. Aubry, Tree Releaf, a county initiative in which the county matches 1:1 dollars toward purchase and planting of public trees. Ms. Alvarez agreed to do the initial legwork and fact finding on the steps and specifics required. She reported back to the committee her progress to date. The application requires specifics that can best be answered by DPW. The committee determined that further efforts should not be made before receiving guidance from DPW. Ms. Leaderman agreed to pursue the matter further and will report back at next meeting.
- 4. Ivy League future sessions:** The Ivy League event scheduled for Saturday, 20 September is proceeding apace. The session is scheduled for 9-11 AM, 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. Aubry agreed to advertise again. Ms. Leaderman mentioned the possibility of UMD interns providing support. Committee members were encouraged to spread the word to neighbors and friends.

The CleanUp, GreenUp event for 10/18/14, will serve as October's Ivy League event. The committee selected 15 trees from the CleanUp, GreenUp list. Mr. Aubry agreed to provide the selections to Mr. Beall. The committee proposed to continue Ivy League sessions year round, including sessions in the winter months, weather permitting. The concept of selecting a particular Saturday of each month was again mentioned.
- 5. Selection of Ivy League's graphic, branding discussion:** Mr. Aubry reported he was experiencing delays due to technical difficulties with file conversion. He stated he hoped to have the signage ready for September 20th's Ivy League session.
- 6. Old Business:** There was no old business.

7. New Business

- a.** Mr. Aubry agreed to invite Mr. Beall to the committee's next meeting.
- b.** Ms. Leaderman has noticed an increase of invasive plants in the park recently, and recalled that DPW had made efforts in the past to address a problem with porcelain-berry when deemed to be threatening plantings used to control erosion along Wells Run.
- c.** Ms. Alvarez reported three established trees on Wells Parkway median, just north of Van Buren, had orange spray paint and wooden stakes on their trunks.
- d.** Ms. Hicks mentioned that in her capacity as Chair for UPTC, she had participated in discussions regarding the Veteran's Memorial. She suggested that someone from the committee continue that interaction.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM