

**Town of University Park:  
Committee on Trees, Parks, and Environment**

**MINUTES FROM THE 2021 WORK SESSION  
January 20, 2021**

**LOCATION: TELEMEETING VIA ZOOM**

**Members Present/Absent** Beth Alvarez, Roy Alvarez , Chris Aubry (Chair), ~~Erie Erickson,~~  
Matt Jasinski, Laurie Morrissey (Council Liaison), Karen Sondak, Joe Thompson , Tiegh Thompson,  
~~Tim Young~~

**GUESTS:** David Deutsch, Town Administrator

***CONVENED: 7:05***

1. Members welcomed new member candidate Matt Jasinski. His appointment is being considered by Mayor and Council.
2. Urban forest, Legacy Tree program, amend town code, Chapter 16.  
A draft of requested changes to the Town Code, Ch. 16 was reviewed and returned by Town Attorney Ferguson, with recommendation that it first be provided to Town Council. Town Administrator Deutsch concurred and will work with Laurie Morrissey to place on council agenda for discussion. Mr. Deutsch, as an aside, indicated that, by definition, changing the Town Code is done by an ordinance.
3. Town Arborist: Committed shared some criticisms of seeming conflict of interest but determined that no actual conflict was demonstrated as a) the tree was on public property, b) the Town Arborist recommended the older tree be pruned vs. removed, and c) the Town Arborist has advocated to retain many trees PEPCO would have removed.
4. Expanding Ivy League scope. After receiving reports of – and witnessing firsthand – extensive ivy on properties in the Forest Hills neighborhood, committee is considering partnering with HHUP to provide ivy removal for seniors. The Chair will contact the Chair of HHUP for discussion.
5. Community Tree Planting 2021. Potential site locations include the trail along the Pollinator Meadow and Lower Ward 6. The date remains TBD.
6. Committee schedule 2021: Committee resolved to retain existing schedule of once monthly meetings, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7:00-8:30PM, and Ivy League sessions the second Saturday, either 9:00-11:00AM or 10:00-12:00 noon.
7. Chair will check in with all current members to confirm interest. Member Sondak noted another resident had asked about joining.

***ADJOURNED: 7:38***