

Town of University Park:
Committee on Trees, Parks, and Environment
Minutes from the meeting,
Wednesday, April 8, 2020
VIRTUAL MEETING Via ZOOM

Members Present/Absent: Beth Alvarez, Roy Alvarez, Chris Aubry (Chair), Eddie Crocker, Eric Erickson, Laurie Morrissey (Council Liaison), Karen Sondak, Joe Thompson, Tiegh Thompson, Tim Young

GUESTS: n/a

Convened: 7:18 PM

ITEMS DISCUSSED AT THIS MEETING:

1. History of Hyattsville's Urban Forestry Ordinance: Report on Phone call with Gloria Felix-Thompson
On 3/27/20, Chair Aubry and members J. Thompson and K. Sondak participated in a one-hour conference call with Hyattsville Tree Board Chair, Gloria Felix-Thompson regarding Hyattsville's Urban Forest Ordinance, Chapter 112, Charter and Code. The interview was a follow-up to the full committee's in-person interview of DPW Director Riddle and Facilities Manager Schmidl, focusing primarily on the origins and initial establishment of the ordinance, dating to 1983.

Chair Aubry subsequently contacted Ray Weil via email, who largely corroborated the account provided by Gloria Felix-Thompson.
2. The committee concurred that a 2020 Street Tree Survey could be conducted while maintaining COVID19-required social distancing. However, Chair Aubry reported that since the 2016 town-wide survey did not provide viable location for 2020, he will contact DPW Director Beall to express interest in planting along "The Mews" open space connecting Sheridan Street to East-West Highway. The committee agreed to assess independently while awaiting Mickey's ruling.
3. Ivy League Due to Town's response to COVID19, the Ivy League has been suspended until further notice.
 - a. Saturday, 3/14, 10:00-12:00. Town Hall: Seven participants removed ivy from town trees in two locations: Town Hall alley following Route 1 South, and SW corner of the Pollinator Meadow.
4. UP IS "TREMENDOUS": A scheduling error has been corrected.
5. Notable Tree: Chair Aubry reported that no new nominees have been received.

6. New Business

- a. Effective immediately, and in effect until advised by Mayor, all in-person committee meetings are suspended, replaced with virtual meetings via ZOOM. Code is consistent, 247-117-568. Meetings will continue on second Wednesday of each month (no meeting in July), 7:00-8:30 PM
 - b. Roy Alvarez reported he'd received a PEPCO hanging tag, indicating pruning of trees on his property was imminent, unless he telephoned to decline. Chair Aubry requested a copy for distribution to the Listserv.
7. Old Business Christophe Baumier has provided status update to Joe Schultz. Chair Aubry was provided a copy.

Adjourned 8:10 PM