

**Town of University Park
Sustainability Committee
Wednesday, August 4, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

Committee members in attendance: Joel Biermann, Joe Thompson, Steven Hurtt, Patricia Williams Dugueye

Guests: Rose Calabro Tully, David Deutsch

The meeting, held via Zoom, was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. The chair postponed discussion of the Meadow Day Report and the Pocket Meadow until September.
2. Discussion on future Storm-water Management initiatives: the committee discussed stormwater management issues in the purview of the committee, as laid out in the town's Sustainability Action Plan. Realizing that the Public Works and Services Committee may delve more into stormwater management infrastructure, the Sustainability Committee is exploring this issue from its vantage point. In particular, the committee discussed the town's Park Plan, recently approved in the town budget, and the need to make forward progress on this plan. Town Administrator David Deutsch informed the committee that he will work with the town staff and research former Sustainability Chairperson Joe Schultz's notes to determine what needs to be done next with respect to the town's Park Plan and issuing an RFP to move forward. More to follow on the RFP, but the committee stressed the importance of making quantifiable progress on it. This plan is an ideal venue to incorporate sustainability principles into the town's park(s) in addition to stormwater management, habitat diversity, and providing additional recreational amenities. This plan should serve as a baseline for informing the way forward on the town's stormwater management. The committee also discussed expansion of raingardens in the town's parks and engaged the town administrator on the possibility that the Park Plan expenses could be eligible for reimbursement via the American Rescue Plan funds.
3. Ad Hoc Items: The committee discussed that it is imperative for the town's residents to be informed on what this committee is doing. There was a brief discussion on the town working with the Clean Water Partnership to mitigate stormwater overflow on Route 1 flowing into Wells Run—more to happen on this next year. This was followed by a brief discussion on the town's tree inventory and tree map. Joe Thompson shared that the tree inventory was compiled by UMD students in May. There was a discussion on open-

source software that could be leveraged to map the town's trees, track the health of these trees, and include others in the process (residents, arborists, etc.).

4. Discussion on future committee agenda items:
 - a. Park Plan RFP
 - b. Sustainability with respect to buildings and facilities (i.e. town garage/storage facility/Town Hall)
 - c. Town Transportation/Shuttle Program way forward

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57p.m.

Submitted by Joel Biermann, Chair