

**Town of University Park  
Committee on Trees, Parks, and Environment  
MINUTES for the Meeting,  
Wednesday, 9/8/2021**

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

GUESTS: n/a

CONVENE: 7:08 PM

ADJOURN: 8:25 PM

**Matters discussed at this meeting:**

1. Welcome Karin Burghardt. Karin's appointment was enacted by Mayor and Council at the 16 August Town Council meeting.
2. Next steps, Ordinance/Legacy Tree program, amend Town Code, Chapter 16.
  - a. Current Status: Mayor Carey conveyed to Council Liaison Morrissey that several revisions need to be made, primarily frequency of the inventory update of the town's trees – we will change to “periodic.”
  - b. College Park: Mr. Aubry attended the city of College Park's 10 August public forum on their proposed tree ordinance. In addition to town officers, a total of 26 people commented, split roughly 60/40 in favor.
  - c. Legislative strategy, LIDAR, etc.: The immediate legislative strategy is clean up the language to Mayor's satisfaction, next month or two get it in front of the council, then by late winter to a Public Forum for UP. Regarding LIDAR, Mr. Aubry expressed his continuing frustration not having meaningful data concerning the town's tree canopy, indicating he has been asking elected officials informally for five years for LIDAR (remote imaging) metrics of current status and status five years ago. Mr. Thompson suggested that we include this request into the town's official request for funding from the American Recovery Plan, by grouping the LIDAR expense as a line item within UP's “Green Infrastructure” cost category.
3. Guilford Woods:
  - a. TPE's letter to Mayor & Council: The committee unanimously provided a letter to Mayor & Council, advising them to contest the development of this land, perceived by TPE as a critical environmental buffer for UP.

- b. Development Oversight Committee: Chair Aubry encouraged committee members to attend and comment, if they had constructive, fact-based comments
- 4. Community Tree Planting 2021: Mr. Aubry shared a sketch of the site plan provided to DPW Director Beall. Mr. Beall indicates that the Mayor has some reservations about the planting.
- 5. Other business: Mr. Aubry will share TPE's 2020 annual report with all members.