

**University Park Town Council Committee on
Policy, Rules & Municipal Structure**

**Thursday October 1, 2020
Zoom (Online meeting)**

Minutes

Attendees: Councilmember Linda Verrill (co-chair), council- and committee members Joe Schultz, Roland Stephen, and Joel Bierman. Absent: Co-chair Laurie Morrissey (excused).

1. Review draft one-pager on gas-powered leaf blowers

The committee reviewed the draft one-pager on gas leaf blowers that had been developed last June and agreed for co-chair Linda Verrill and member Roland Stephen to add information on context and a section on limiting hours of usage. Member Joe Schultz will discuss the draft proposal with the Sustainability Committee. A revised draft of the one-pager will be discussed at November's meeting.

2. Other business

- Look into multi-unit housing zoning for E/W Highway. Is it zoned single family? Can a variance be granted? To what zoning?

The committee discussed the idea of multi-unit housing being allowed in UP for all periphery roads (not just E/W Highway) and agreed that the town needs to start planning for the future given changes expected in surrounding communities. The committee also discussed the idea of allowing auxiliary dwelling units throughout town and agreed for co-chair Linda Verrill to clarifying seek information from the town attorney. The topic will be further discussed at November's committee meeting.

- Racial Justice Activities: Commission another history which includes a perspective on race? An addendum to existing history?

The committee discussed developing an addendum to the 1975 University Park history that would include issues of race alongside other structural/societal changes that have affected the town since 1976. Member Roland Stephen will look into the possibility of a UMD graduate student taking on the task of updating UP's documented history.

Member Joel Bierman suggested having a landing page on the town website consisting of town values with links specific to the work the town has done on

racial justice, including but not limited to the Welcoming Town policy changes and the town's statement on racial justice. Co-chair Linda Verrill will talk with the Mayor and town clerk about implementing the idea.

- Co-chair Linda Verrill received the draft Fence Heights Ordinance from the town attorney earlier in the day of the committee meeting. The committee briefly reviewed the draft and agreed that it could go directly to council without delay.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm