

**Town of University Park  
Sustainability Committee**

**Minutes**

**Tuesday, 11 April 2023**

**7:30 PM – 9:00 PM**

The meeting is open. The public is welcome to attend.

**Zoom Meeting information:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83276229521?pwd=UGRGQy9xNnZ5cHVkYm55eTFBcHVYQT09>

**Dial in:** 301-715-8592

**Meeting ID:** 832 7622 9521

**Passcode:** 166621

Agenda

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes
  - *No minutes from last meeting due to lack of notice for meeting*
2. Updates on previous and ongoing business
  - a. Bee City status and no mow April
    - *invasives discussion - will discuss more - may need to start resident education / public land invasive removal/ test plots*
    - *Meadow Weed and seed - April 15*
    - *Joint collaborative stream clean-up with AWS April 22*
    - *PRESS - Meadow made the news! <https://today.umd.edu/bees-without-borders?fbclid=IwAR0uYFqBp7XqXBrvOC9CziI0w8J-tC0aqiSspQZZyIPPGgOaqskd2IpCUWYw>*
    - *Asked Karin Burghart and Karen Sondak about invasives- they are designing rain garden for town - asked for final design so our committee can include in re-certification.*
    - *DPW Mini Meadow report - cleaned up/ kept cuttings on premise*
    - *Dyed Mulch uses pressured treated wood that has toxic chemicals- need to find alternative (where to look?)- need to talk with Mickey*
    - *Need \$300 for food for Meadow Day - asking Chairman Ralph to ask Mayor - this is for food.*
    - *Advertise Meadow Day insert in newsletter*
  - b. Sustainable Maryland update
    - *Joe Thompson presented. Attended workshop for re-certification, application is proceeding*

- c. Stormwater Mgmt and 9 Ponds
    - *Meeting in College Park City Hall on Sustainable stormwater management, 24th May, 7-9:30. Goal is to start dialogue among communities along the route 1 corridor to partner on large-scale stormwater management projects. DB will contact Mayor and others involved in stormwater mgmt with Chairman Ralph on CC. Event could be public education focused or more focused on political cooperation or both.*
    - *Organized by David Brosch and John Tabori*
  - d. Maryland/PEPCO Empower Program
    - *David Brosch spoke on program and potential ways to promote it.*
3. Town FY24 Budget: considerations for sustainability
- a. Changes in town composting
    - *The committee feels we should have a community discussion on this and get clarity on the cost. Recommend Mr. Beale present to committee.*
  - b. Park lighting
    - *Should be discussed as part of larger, well-formulated Park Plan*
    - *There are known ecological impacts on lights which are detrimental to wildlife, insects, and also is counter to a sustainable environment*
    -
  - c. Contributions to non-profits
  - d. Town shuttle and garbage truck
    - *Shuttle was discussed. Recommend having a public discussion about this based and recommend releasing the transit report. Could the money be used in a better way for sustainability.*
    - *Budget would set aside \$90K - new lien towards saving for an electric trash truck, eg.*
  - e. Other budget items to propose
    - *Propose UP donate to AWS for all the specialized advice and service they provide this UP*  
*Case for donation: AWS - Anacostia Watershed Society renders specialized support and advice to University Park for years -*
      - *on the creation of UP Pollinator Meadow - they are a partner 2018*
      - *on the maintenance of the UP Pollinator Meadow 2018 - present*
      - *on ID of species ( recently on UP salamanders)*
      - *on Guilford Woods ( INaturalist demo),*
      - *advice on invasive control - lesser celandine advice ( this week!)*
      - *providing an education table at UP Meadow Day 2022 and 2023*
      - *UP Stream CleanUp partner in 2022 and 2023*
      - *Jorge Bogantes Montero of AWS speaks at meetings and is always supportive and brings substantial local knowledge and experience particularly with sustainability matters - UP leans on AWS.*

4. Other Business
  - a. Drainage from upstream properties
    - Invite David McGaughey to our next meeting to discuss his proposal coming out of his committee
  - b. Recommend fixing un-networked stormwater pond in the park at 4110 block Tennyson
  - c. Money is needed for food for Meadow Day (\$300) - RD to bring at Town Council Meeting
5. Status of public works maint. facility RFP
  - RD contacted Ms. Ferguson and report is not ready yet.
6. send **Climate Action Framework** and **Sustainable MD** goals to to staff/ council in budget cycle before council meeting.
  - Amend to include more Sustainability measures
7. Adjourn

*Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the Town at least 72 hours before the meeting by contacting the Town office at 301-927-4262*