

**Town of University Park: Committee on Trees, Parks, and Environment**  
**Minutes for the Meeting, 14 JUNE 2023**  
**(as unanimously approved by TPE, 7/12/2023)**  
**Location: 6607 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

**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: 7:03PM      ADJOURN: 8:47**

**ITEMS DISCUSSED AT THIS MEETING:**

Karin Burghardt summarized progress on the rainwater catchment at Woodberry & College Heights. It is resolved that the planting of materials at the fully engineered pond will be site of UP's/TPE's Community Tree Planting event for 2023, with a late September/early October planting window.

The pond has been redesigned multiple times since initially conceived. We are waiting for final changes to accommodate delineation and grading of resident's yard.

Committee recommends that Chair contacts DPW Director Beall requesting other redesign/planning considerations, including

1. Raise the ledge approximately 10" on which the delineating wall will be footed.
2. Raise the bed of the pond to accommodate likely settling.
3. Order plugs for front of the pond ASAP. Delay order for rest of materials until the bed and ledge are raised and grading is completed.

The committee is as a whole anxious about the town's lack of awareness regarding the Tree Ordinance as enacted June 2022. Committee resolved to

1. include Tree Ordinance Flow Chart as an insert in next available issue of UP's Newsletter.
2. follow up on getting the ordinance incorporated as a standard real estate disclosure for all UP real estate sales packages. (next step - Liaison Morrissey to facilitate with Town Attorney Ferguson.)
3. better engage Code Enforcement. (Liaison Morrissey to work with Chief Baker on this.)

Meadow Day is July 8, 2023. TPE will schedule July's monthly Ivy League for that time and place. Additionally, TPE will staff a table with TPE-related materials.

DPW Director Beall has provided his FY 24 Contractor's List of town trees identifying 58 planting sites. TPE will select species for each site and provide completed list back by mid-July 2023.

The committee resolved to table deployment/beta testing of the *Healthy Trees, Healthy Cities* app for the time being. Individual members can opt to use the app to record their annual findings as Ward Stewards when recording distressed trees in their assigned wards.

Ward Stewards will be recording all street trees in their respective wards no later than July 31, and providing the data back to Chair Aubry. Wards will be as assigned in 2022, 2021, *i.e.*

- WARD 1: Tim Y. and Eric E.
- WARD 2: Chris A.
- WARD 3: Laurie M. and Karin B.
- WARD 4: Matt J.
- WARD 5: Karen S.
- WARD 6: Joe T.
- WARD 7: Roy & Beth A.

TPE member Thompson, who also serves on Sustainability Committee, announced Storm Water Forum occurring on 6/22 on UMD campus. The forum will explore local and county-wide storm water management concerns. Mr. Thompson described several specific storm water management locations they would like UP to contract out with the town's ARPA funds.