

**ARBORETUM COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 7-9 pm, Town Hall

Attending: committee members -- Sean Conlan, Jane Davenport McClintock, Charlie Andrews, Jim Sullivan, Elizabeth Glidden; Town Arborist – Phil Normandy; Resident Becky Band Jain

**Executive Summary:** The committee is looking into streamlining the process of posting minutes to the town website so that they will be of more use to residents. We discussed native plants with Becky Jain and, while likely not in our purview, there are several opportunities to encourage native plantings around town. Phil reports that pruning continues the south side of town but that we are still waiting for the MOU that will allow us to prune on Strathmore. A lot happened under “Other Business” including discussions of memorial trees, Cambria Park and adjacent and official naming of the arboretum. Next meeting is August 16.

Topic	Action Item
<p>April 2023 minute approval. The chair forgot to resend the April minutes and, with the new two-month schedule, people wanted to look over them again before voting.</p> <p>This brought up another issue which is that the town office currently only posts minutes to the town website after they’ve been approved. This results in a very long lag in posting that makes them less useful to residents. The committee would like to either a) post draft minutes immediately or b) vote to approve minutes by email.</p>	<p>Sean will contact the office to see if open meeting rules require an in-person vote on minutes approval.</p> <p>Postpone to vote by email, if possible</p>
<p>Three issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Japanese maple at 11309 Rokeby (Natalie Grande)</li> <li>• Becky Jain asked about the use of native plants for town, in particular: a) possibility of a grant from Bona Terra, b) a bulk purchase for the town and residents. While the committee is very supportive of native plantings, this likely falls outside our purview. Also, given the manual labor required for the Bona Terra grant-associated plants, it seems unlikely the town crew will have time to take advantage of that program. Three things were suggested:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This would be a great opportunity to ask the CA to host a native plant meeting and see if town enthusiasts want to go in on a group purchase.</li> <li>○ A Bugle article on the value of native plants would be a good way to highlight their benefits for Maryland wildlife.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Sean will loop back with Natalie about the Japanese maple. It is healthy and the location it’s in is fine.</p> <p>Sean with email Becky contact info for the three native plant outreach suggestions.</p> <p>Phil will check the tree on Kenilworth</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A conversation with the town office about how plants are selected for the beds and planters around town. More mature natives (not seedlings) should be no more difficult than the standard annuals that are often used.</li> <li>● John King asked about a tree near 11118 Kenilworth with some sawdust piles around it</li> </ul>	
<p>Arborist report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Bartlett will be working on the south side of town. Phil mentioned that he has some pruning requests from residents that will be included.</li> <li>● The town has selected a contractor for the Yeandle property. Phil has discussed tree protection and they will be mostly working from the front of the property to avoid disturbing large trees at the back and sides of the property.</li> <li>● Sean wrote and submitted an article to the Bugle highlighting the need for tree protections during construction. This was the result of some examples Phil noted around town where construction impacted trees.</li> <li>● The town is still working on the MOU with SHA to allow the town to handle the pruning of trees on Strathmore.</li> <li>● We will discuss the Fall tree selection process with Phil at the next meeting. Phil has written guidelines. Tree orders will need to start in August.</li> <li>● Phil has asked the town crews to document the prunings they do for his end of the year report to the state.</li> <li>● New trees and removals are going into the database and will be updated on the map.</li> </ul>	<p>Sean will send out Phil's tree selection guidelines before the next meeting</p>
<p>The town council discussed two items on the Waverly streetscape: preliminary drawings and lighting options. The preliminary drawings were approved for the purpose of soliciting bids. Lighting was discussed but not voted on.</p>	<p>Sean will send out the drawings and lighting presentation.</p>
<p>Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The town office is planning to order a commemorative plaque for Ted Pratt's tree near the train station and will plan a dedication after Labor Day.</li> <li>● In discussing Ted's tree, Jane recommended we also plant a tree for Gene Swearingen.</li> <li>● There was a brief discussion about the mayor's request for input on a large Cambria Park area overhaul. The</li> </ul>	<p>Phil will talk to the town office about contacting Gene's family for tree ideas.</p> <p>Sean and Lizzie will investigate whether the establishment of the</p>

<p>committee does not have a consensus opinion about the project. However, we did have a historical discussion about Manny’s woods (near the tennis courts). It started as a community project to honor Manny Sullivan. 10+ years ago some hazardous trees were removed along with invasives. There are a few town trees in that area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lizzie brought to the committee’s attention that the Arboretum doesn’t appear to have an official name. This came to light as part of executing a donation to the arboretum from Barbara Schidler. Charlie pointed out that, if we have a name, there is a registry of arboretums that we would qualify for listing in without any additional work (arbnet)</li> </ul>	<p>arboretum ca 1977 came with an official name.</p>
<p>Next Meeting Aug 16, skipping July</p>	<p>Sean to send out minutes, double check Town Hall reservation and cancel the July reservation</p>

Abbrev.

CAP=Comprehensive Arboretum Plan

POSCO=Parks and Open Spaces Committee

GPCAN=Garrett Park Climate Action Network

SHA=State Highway Administration

MOU=Memorandum of Understanding

SOW=Statement of Work

LUAC=Land Use Advisory Committee