

**FINAL / Minutes of the Tree and Landscape Board
City Hall, City of College Park
April 16, 2014**

<u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Brenda Alexander, Public Works Deputy Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steven Beavers, Planning Representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dennis Herschbach, Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
John Krouse, Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
John Lea-Cox, City Forester	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mark Wimer, Chairperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CBE Liaison, Gemma Evans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Mr. Krouse called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

I. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

Motion: Adoption of the March 26, 2014 Tree and Landscape Board meeting minutes, as amended.

Moved: Mr. Krouse

Second: Ms. Evans

Aye: Unanimous

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

II. Arbor Day

Arbor Day will be celebrated on Friday, April 25, at 6:00 p.m. in the 7300 block of Rhode Island Avenue between Knox and Calvert Roads. A yellow wood tree and nine sweet shrubs (Calycanthus) will be planted. The landscape crew will prepare the planting bed. Mayor Fellows will be in attendance. In addition, members of Boy Scout Troop #740, that have previously participated, as well as families from the Co-Op Nursery are expected to attend. Ms. Alexander notified the Calvert Hills Civic Association, the president of the Old Town Civic Association, and the two councilmembers for this area, but she has not yet received a response. She received a call from the Forester for the Department of Natural Resources regarding Arbor Day, but is unsure if he will attend. Mr. Krouse suggested sending out a reminder. CBE Liaison Evans will request CBE members to “spread the word” about Arbor Day.

III. M-NCPPC Airport Tree Trimming

Ms. Alexander attended the March 27, 2014 meeting, which was referenced in the March meeting minutes. A company from Columbia, Maryland, was hired to plan the project and map out the work to be done, including the heights and flight path. Two representatives from the company, the tree contractor and the staff member who supervised his work, attended the meeting. They explained that in the past, they used a Maryland Aviation Guideline, but have now changed to prune according to Federal Aviation Administration standards, which are more stringent and necessitated more drastic pruning at the airport. In addition, the east side of the runway near Kenilworth Avenue was extended, which changed the flight path and necessitated pruning lower in that area. The representatives explained that because the trapezoidal-shaped path that was extended is not as wide, some trees that were previously topped were not pruned in 2013. They

also discussed pruning at Greenbelt Park. However, M-NCPPC Forester, Jerry Langham, who was in attendance, informed them that Greenbelt Park is federal property.

Ms. Alexander was provided with a list of replacement trees, which included ash. Mr. Krouse suggested that Ms. Alexander inform the TLB if she sees any issues during her rounds that the TLB may need to address.

IV. Public Works

- The landscape crew is still working on spring cleanups. The following areas have been completed: Cattail Hill, Guilford Drive, Wake Forest island, Harvard/Guilford island, Old Parish House, the Public Service building, Blackfoot Circle, Duvall Field, Berwyn Plaza, and the medians on Baltimore Avenue from Lehigh Road to Guilford Road.
- The water in the Duvall field blockhouse was turned on to allow use of the restrooms and kitchen for spring sports activities. American Stripping was contracted to paint lines on Duvall field for scheduled lacrosse games.
- One hundred cubic yards of engineered wood fiber mulch was delivered to Branchville playground to be spread over the play surface to increase the cushioning depth around the play structures.
- Two playground inspections were completed. Two picnic tables and one bench at Old Town playground were repaired; all of the wooden boards were replaced and sealed for weather protection.
- The City of Greenbelt bucket truck hung the Easter event banner for Youth and Family Services, which took place last weekend.
- The Maryland Department of Environmental Services tub grinder came to the yard to grind brush; more than 2,000 cubic yards of brush were processed into approximately 1,000 cubic yards of wood mulch.
- During the first snowfall in March, refuse/recycling collections were delayed by one day; however, during the second March snowfall, removals and collections were not affected.
- March compost sales amounted to nearly 200 cubic yards of SMARTLEAF; 48 cubic yards of wood mulch were also sold.
- The yard is still open this week and next week for spring cleanup.
- Ms. Alexander submitted the Prince George's County Releaf Program application which requested grant reimbursement of over \$4,200 for native trees and shrubs that will be planted throughout the City. She met with the representatives from the Program on April 15, and they explained that since the first application they received was from the City of College Park, they would like to kick off the Program in the City around the end of May 2014. They will decide on one of the two following locations:
 - In Lakeland along 54th Avenue at Navahoe Street for a screen planting along the railroad tracks
 - At Edmonston Road along the side for a screen planting

- Mr. Krouse expressed concern about the erosion at Hollywood Road and 48th Street. Ms. Alexander explained she has previously seeded there; however, it is a shady area with lots of foot traffic. Mr. Krouse suggested that the CBE liaison inform CBE about this issue. (Discussion to be continued.)

V. Planning Department

Mr. Beavers informed TLB members that he had a very productive walk with Lincoln Smith to site potential permaculture locations on the trolley trail between Greenbelt Road and Berwyn Park. Mr. Smith suggested several locations and, with the permission of CBE, will proceed to draw up a plan which he will present to the Berwyn District Civic Association at their May 15 meeting. His fee of approximately \$2,100 will include consultation; drawing up the plan; and a presentation to the Civic Association, Mayor and Council, and the TLB. Mr. Krouse suggested that Mr. Smith present to the TLB prior to presenting to the Mayor and Council.

CBE Liaison Evans stated that the CBE is planning an excursion to Mr. Smith's 10-acre facility; she will inform the TLB when plans are finalized.

VI. Committee for a Better Environment (CBE)

The last CBE meeting included the following items:

- A presentation on purchasing solar systems.
- Ms. Oppelt was nominated and approved to be the official CBE liaison for the TLB.
- The CBE voted to approve \$500 for an arts and school project.
- Ms. Termini expressed an interest and was nominated to organize a native plants workshop.
- Mayor Fellows, who was in attendance, suggested that the CBE purchase more books for the library.
- A discussion regarding pursuing another compost bin workshop; it was noted that the City of Takoma Park subsidizes a portion of the cost of these bins by purchasing them in bulk and making them available to the residents.
- CBE will discuss the pesticide ban at their April meeting, and Mayor Fellows will be invited to attend.

VII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the April 16, 2014 Tree and Landscape Board meeting.

Moved: Ms. Evans

Second: Mr. Beavers

Aye: Unanimous

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

The TLB meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. The next TLB meeting is scheduled for May 21 at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall.

Minutes prepared by Debra Pinkett, Contract Secretary for the City of College Park