

**Minutes of the Tree and Landscape Board
City of College Park
Virtual Meeting
May 19, 2021**

<u>Term Exp.</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
N/A	Brenda Alexander, Public Works Assistant Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
04/30/2021	John Lea-Cox, City Forester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
04/30/2021	Christine O'Brien, member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10/31/2021	James Meyer, member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
04/09/2021	Janet Wagner, member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
04/30/2021	Rashawna Alfred, member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
04/30/2021	Todd Reitzel, member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	CBE Representative		
	Dylan Burns, CBE, representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Fazlul Kabir, City Councilmember	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Maria Mackie, City Councilmember	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Llatetra Esters, City Councilmember	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Carleeva Thompson, Contract Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Ms. Alfred called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

- 1. Approval of Meeting Agenda:** The agenda for the May 19, 2021 meeting was reviewed and the CBE report was removed from the agenda.

Motion: Accept agenda as edited.

Moved: Ms. Alfred

Second: Ms. O'Brien

Aye: Unanimous

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

- 2. Approval of April Meeting Minutes:** The minutes of the April 15, 2021 meeting were reviewed.

Motion: Accept meeting minutes as presented.

Moved: Ms. Alfred

Second: Mr. Reitzel

Aye: Unanimous

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

- 3. Public Works Department Report:** Ms. Alexander shared the following highlights:

- The Arbor Day celebration went very well.
- Summer annuals have been delivered and the landscape crew are planting them throughout the City.

- 4. CBE Report:** No updates.

- 5. Old Business**

Action Plan for Urban Tree Protection Recommendations

The Board met with Councilmembers to discuss how to begin a plan for phase of implementation of the Urban Tree Protection Recommendations. Discussions included providing residents education on the importance of maintaining the tree canopy by starting a campaign to promote tree protection and creating a pamphlet to provide to residents. It was suggested that the tone and content of the communication to residents is very important.

There was a suggestion to have a City tree registry so there is knowledge of what types of trees are planted/growing on private property within the City. Councilmembers agreed creation of a City tree maintenance fund would be critical to help City residents since the cost of maintenance and assessment may not be affordable to some residents. There was also discussion on providing grants or funding to have trees assessed. It was suggested to develop a partnership with a local tree company that City residents can contact for tree assessment or maintenance.

There was a question as to which residents would have access to the tree maintenance fund.

The Board will recommend to the Council to put in place a requirement for City residents to have a tree permit before cutting down a tree.

Councilmembers suggested for the Board to review the proposed urban tree protection recommendations and map out which recommendations are the most important and to place into phases for implementation.

The Board discussed the following phases for implementation of the Urban Tree Protection Recommendations:

Phase 1

- Issuing of a tree permit
- Incentives for tree maintenance
- The City should provide assistance to residents that need help with the cost of an Arborist.
- Communication and education to City residents on the permit program
- City Tree registry

Phase 2

- Tree replacement and penalties for tree removal without replacement.
- Create partnership with University of Maryland and Maryland National Capital Park and Planning (MNCPPC) for replacement of trees within the City boundaries.
- Mapping of heritage trees.

Phase 3

- Develop a relationship with Prince George's County to advocate for tree replacement in the City.
- Impervious surface reduction to reduce the Clean Water Act fee.

The Board will draft a plan to implement phases of the Urban Tree Protection Recommendations. The drafted plan will be provided to Mayor Wojahn and Councilmembers Mackie, Kabir, and Esters for review prior to the June TLB meeting.

6. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on June 16, 2021.

7. Adjourn

Ms. Alfred adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.