

MINUTES
Parks and Green Spaces Committee
meeting in Western Grove Park
On Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 4:00 pm

Present: Ellen Sands, Village Liaison, Carol Coffin, Sue Cohen, Susan Dixon,
Jorie Jurgens, Mildred Nance
and Margo Kingston and Susan Kilborn: Co-Chairs

The meeting was called to order by Margo Kingston. The first order of business was the discussion of the upcoming talk by the Montgomery County Beekeepers Association on Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 7:00 pm. They will speak about best actions to support honeybees, like planting pollinator-friendly flowers, shrubs and trees. Also, weather permitting, the beekeepers will have a honeybee hive on display outside on the lawn to give the audience a closer look at bee life. The speakers will invite CC Villagers to consider becoming beekeepers themselves. Our Parks and Green Spaces Committee is sponsoring this talk and will provide light refreshments for attendees.

Ellen Sands brought the committee up to date on the plans of the Survey Crew working on water run-off in the buffer. They have done their research and are now drafting their report. The dead sycamore between 2 birch trees will be cut down in the next few weeks.

Jorie Jurgens and Susan Dixon reported that the landscaped area in honor of Bob Elliott in the Large Triangle Park (NW corner of the park at Oliver Street and Kirkside Drive) is overgrown and badly pruned dead plant materials give the park a messy look. Ellen Sands will research this. She also let the committee know that she will visit the site with the Landscape designer to create a course of action. The fern plantings at the entrance to the buffer will be weeded and an organic herbicide, Mirameci, will be applied before mulching for the winter.

Susan Kilborn agreed to modify a form to an excel form to be used by our committee members to describe work needed in those parks, we have agreed to oversee for the Village. This will keep an on-going record for the Village of the work required. This will be available at the next meeting.

Next, our boxwood plantings at Grafton St and Magnolia Parkway were discussed. Ellen said that the Survey Crew for the Landscape Design Firm that was hired to plan for the space now occupied by the ailing boxwood which will be removed, has done their initial work and are now creating a landscape design plan for the spot. The hope is that the plantings and design will be initiated in the Spring. In the meantime, it was suggested by committee members that a pruning of the dead boxwood would be a good idea. Ellen responded that perhaps the usual December pruning of the boxwood done by committee members might be done more generously than usual as these shrubs will be removed to make way for the new plan for the Boxwood Grove.

It was announced that the Village has found a replacement for our retired Director of Public Works, Jerry Lesene. **The new Director of Public Works is Anthony Young, and we welcome him and look forward to working with him to make the Village a healthy green space and a deterrent to climate change.**

There being no new business, Margo adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo Kingston
Susan Kilborn