

Minutes  
Parks and Green Spaces Committee Meeting  
Thursday, September 23, 2021  
In the Village Hall  
At 4:00 PM  
(The Western Grove Urban Park was rained out)

Committee Goals:  
Maps of the Village's Parks

Present at the meeting were: Ellen Sands, Chevy Chase Village Administrator and liaison for the Parks and Green Spaces Committee with the Board of Managers. Margo Kingston and Susan Kilborn, Co-Chairs; Carol Coffin, Sue Cohen, Allison DiGiovanni, Jorie Jurgens

The meeting was brought to order by Margo Kingston at 4:00pm. We officially welcomed Allison to our committee. She is a new resident of Chevy Chase Village, and we are very happy she has joined our committee.

MEETING DATES: Our next meeting of this year will be on Thursday, October 14, 2021. Weather permitting, all meetings will take place in Western Grove Park. If there is a change in venue, members will be informed by text on the evening before the meeting date.

Margo asked Ellen Sands to explain what the Committee needed to do to have stone footpads positioned under those benches that need them. Previously Margo had presented the Committee Bench Report with photographs. These photographs made it clear stone foot pads would make it more agreeable to sit in our parks and would allow optimum enjoyment of the parks.

Repairs to any damaged benches will continue to be handled quickly. Power washing will be scheduled for every two years which will ensure their viability for years to come. Ellen explained that a list of benches which need foot pads plus their location in the park, right of way or buffer to be sent to The Village is all that is required for the installation of stone foot pads where needed.

Again, we discussed the memorial benches and chairs placed in the False Cypress Right of Way. The Harr and the Rupp families donated two chairs and double bench respectively. The chairs given by the Harr family were placed at right angles to the bench. This group of seats provides a serene place for a small meeting or a pleasant place to meet socially with friends while maintaining physical distancing as required by the ongoing pandemic.

The Committee is planning to write an article for the Crier later in the fall to highlight this opportunity to honor or memorialize someone by donating a bench to our parks. There are memorial benches in the large Triangle Park, in the Buffer at Center St. and in Hesketh Street's Right of Way in addition to those in the False Cypress Right of Way, discussed above.

Ellen went on to say that a new consulting engineer has signed a contract with the Village, CPJ Associates. Also, a new landscape architect contract was recently given to Envirocollab, LLC. This company is comprised of three women from Baltimore. They plan to begin work on the Buffer by restoring the piping from Grove St toward the Montgomery Street entrance to the Village, regrading and planting. The work will extend down to Park Street which is at the opposite end of the Buffer.

Ms. Sands also announced that on Saturday, October 16 the County and Chevy Chase Village will host a celebration called "Pumpkins and Pours" from 4-7 PM at Western Grove Park. Light food and beer as well as soft drinks will be available for purchase. The only entrance to the celebration will be from Western Avenue at

Western Grove Park. There will be pumpkin decoration and other games for children.

The three new azaleas planted during the summer in the Large Triangle Park died due to the intense hot and dry weather. They will be replaced this fall.

NEW BUSINESS: Dr. Hatfield who lives on West Irving Street hopes the Environment and Conservation Committees will push for an increase in the use of plants that attract pollinators to our Parks and Green Spaces. Ellen wondered if our committee would be interested in joining the other two groups (the Environment and Energy Committee and the Garden Club) in this effort. Much information is available from the Smithsonian Institution about butterflies and bees and how to attract them.

Ellen Sands also announced that Chevy Chase Circle will be restored. The Friends of Chevy Chase Circle were given a substantial grant. Chevy Chase Village appropriated funds as well toward completion of this work.

The meeting was adjourned at 5 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Kilborn and  
Margo Kingston, Co-Chairs  
October 3, 2021