

Mayor Tracey Furman

**Council Member Darin Bartram
Council Member Nate Engle**



**Council Member Conor Crimmins
Council Member Ann Lichter**

March 13, 2024

Attendees:

- Anna Sachs, Tracey Furman, Gloria Capron, Helen Wilkes, Katherine Wood, Carolyn Morrissey, Ann Lichter, Alison Oppenheim

1. Tree Canopy

- Weed Warriors Update
 - Katherine is now a Weed Warrior supervisor
 - Three events every month (1 certified WW, 1 all adults, 1 allows for students to get SSL hours)
 - KP Stream Valley Park has been identified as priority area for plantings - Pope Farm - will be able to have new plantings
 - Really making a difference - featured in Weed Warrior/Parks Quarterly Newsletter
 - Maintaining calendar with TOK and send out reminders
- Homeowner purchase programs (Stadler, new proposed program from TOK)
 - Two options
 - (1) Stadler Coupon Program
 - Can advertise the program at Native Plant Sale, at Tree Care 101
 - Could engage the Stadler tree rep in this
 - (2) Town
 - With TOK subsidy - would sacks be provided?
 - Site consultation – species and location, some type of questionnaire to help
 - Pay first
 - Carolyn will work with Alex on this option
- Tree Care 101 workshop
 - Confirmed for May 18, 2024 with Conservation Montgomery
 - Location TBD
 - Last year we sponsored it; we can sponsor payment
 - EventBrite page
 - Ann will email Alex and cc Katherine
- Arbor Day event for Tree City Designation
 - Native Plant Sale - Spring possibility
 - Katherine working on options
- Municipal ordinances
 - We had questions about what we can and cannot do

- We don't have a Tree Board anymore - though the committee can serve as eyes and ears, could have reporting point
- Inventory, Eyes and Ears, Website - info for residents, could review existing ordinance and make proposals for what to update with our Town Ordinances - different level of ordinances - town trees, state trees, park trees,
- <https://tok.md.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/OFFICIAL-TOWN-CODE-inc-amend-thru-07-01-2022.pdf> (p. 128)
- U-Md Collaboration on Tree Inventory; still waiting for info from UMD
- Town Journal article - Carolyn submitted
 - May Journal - so deadline will be April 12th

2. Native Plants/ Pollinator Gardens / Rain Gardens

- Native Plant sale next steps
 - Date TBD; hope to work with Nature By Design - Nursery - sells Native Plants
 - You pre-order, can call and talk to them about what you should order
 - Pre-purchased orders - bring it in with truck
 - Katherine will get details on ordering window - up to a week before Trial run
 - Could put it out on the listserv and could put it on the Paul Sexton table -
 - Create flyer with Kariann's help
 - Could do north side of Train Station
 - Put up signage to closer a certain area for the truck to him - tell Matt, could have a couple tables there -
 - April 21st 11-4pm - will have table at Day of the Book
 - First Shift: Anna from 11 to 12:30pm
 - Carolyn will do a shift
- Pollinator gardens - commercial property next steps
 - Exploring two commercial sites:
 - Prevention of Blindness- they have applied for a grant
 - Compass Atelier - could install pollinator garden there
 - Carolyn volunteered to reach out to the Master Gardeners in town (we have 18 in Kensington). Could we put together a group to do the planting and help with the design.
 - Who would maintain it -
 - Property owners/tenants would be responsible for watering and maintaining
 - If we get a group of master gardeners to help the first couple of years
 - We should have an agreement about roles
 - Are people are aware that pollinator gardens do look untidy
 - Can do pollinator garden - we can signs and
- Rain garden at Ernest Park
 - Alison is working on labels; Alison will help
 - Mayor Tracey will talk to Town Crew about keeping cuttings away from plantings
- [Garden Tour w/native plant/Bay-Wise garden educational component](#)
 - Bay Wise is not measuring for beauty - could be beautiful or not
 - Education comes at each garden
 - Detta did this a few years ago -

3. Town Parks

- Updates and maintenance (Clum Kennedy)
 - Took out dead boxwoods - Debbie will come back with suggestions
 - Would be good to put in more astilbe, ferns and other shade plants
 - Will likely move the sign as the Redbud is getting larger

4. Miscellaneous announcements

- April 27th - dog parade
- Dog Poop education at Dog Parade
- Create map with locations – if we don't have a map, Carolyn will ride with Marco to mark them up

Past Decisions & Assignments

February

- Carolyn will explore logistics for Native Plant sale in the spring
- Katherine will look into another tree care workshop
- Carolyn will come up with proposed budget for pollinator gardens on commercial properties
- Carolyn will gauge interest among Master Gardeners on collaborating on pollinator garden design and installation

November

1. Alex will check with Stadler to see if we could arrange a discount/rebate program for residents to plant trees.
2. Carolyn volunteered to look into getting tree tags for certain Town trees.
3. Alex will look into having a "Greenscape/Trees" drop down under Residents page on the Town website. We can add information about street trees program and the educational articles from our Town journals.
4. Alison will check with Weed Warriors lead to see if the group can do some maintenance down by Cabin Park.
5. Tracey will talk to County about removing brush from Warner Circle.
6. Committee members to look at flagpoles at Ernest Memorial Park and consider what changes to make.
7. Committee will identify members to create workgroup with Sustainable Kensington to work on pollinator gardens, native plants, etc.