

Takoma Park Tree Commission

August 14, 2018, 6:45 to 8:30 pm

Minutes by Tina Murray

Present: Tina Murray, John Barnwell, Denny May, Bruce Levine, Jan van Zutphen

Stephanie Kaufman, Resident

Absent: Carol Hotton

1. July minutes approved
2. Hearing schedule postponed. Jan is negotiating with homeowner
3. Tree canopy data is not yet available for review by the Spatial Analysis Lab. As a result, the workshop and review cannot take place until October/November
4. Spring Park Update: The hill was eroding. Air spading was conducted to determine that the retaining wall will have minimal effect on the tree roots. Inquiries regarding what we see around town are commonplace.
5. Ms. Kaufman presented her concerns regarding an approved tree protection plan with regard to the movement of the entrance and access walkway of her home at 322 Boyd Avenue. There was confusion at the time the plan was approved, and she is concerned that she received a stop work order, because of the failure to comply with the provision to apply Cambistat to a tree with roots that were damaged as a result of the project.

Jan was concerned that these issues were not brought up in the negotiations prior to the approval of the tree protection plan. He also wanted to work through this with the homeowner, as the Commission has no formal role to play in hearing complaints against approved plans. They both agreed to research alternatives, and Jan will report back to the Commission in September.

6. Urban Forest Manager Report:

Bulk Buy announcement to be published in September newsletter. No change in species selection

Tree Assessment delayed by the County DEP

Spring Park is nearly complete