

Parks and Trees Committee

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

Members present: Victoria Matthews, Chairwoman, Bette Woolsey, John Woolsey, Patricia Campbell, John Hoy, Alma Homola

Discussion about a new mission statement requested by the Overseers, to include the committee's new responsibility for the parks. John Woolsey will start the process for a combined mission statement for parks and trees. We can edit and add to it, and we will discuss at our next meeting.

Discussion about continued watering of new trees. It was decided to continue watering until the trees become dormant for winter and evaluate at that time for future needs. Alma will evaluate the trees and share her recommendations at that time. Bette will contact "watering volunteers" about continued watering and encourage them to continue to report time spent to be included in the final grant paperwork. Bette will contact Lisa Fryer as to when the reporting can stop and what Lisa may need to complete grant requests.

Discussion about pesticides as the possible reason for the damage to the new tree at lower Ruggles Park. It was recommended that we request the Infrastructure Committee ask for input from the Parks and Tree Committee when an outside contractor is restoring parks and using chemicals. Vicky will bring this request to the Overseers.

Discussion of where and how to dispose of gardening refuse will be taken to Bill Paige for suggestions. Vicky will discuss with Bill and report to Overseers for suggestion approval.

John Woolsey agreed to continue with pruning, as necessary, of smaller bushes and trees that are easy to access next spring and summer.

All committee members agreed to make a list of projects and needs for next year as they identify them. These will be considered in the spring, prioritized and a plan put in place.

All committee members agreed that this summer's 2 gardening/cleanup days were very successful, beneficial and even fun.

Next meeting will be by Zoom in early 2023 unless a need arises to meet before then.