



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Location: Dunn Brothers, Shu Shu's Table (first floor meeting room)

Attendance: Robert Tacke, Kerri Seemann

The meeting began at 1:30pm.

1. Update on Buckthorn Workshop

We reviewed one of the sample flyers that Hannah designed and discussed possible ways to distribute: Printed: bulletin boards at libraries and coffee shops, Online: Next Door, Facebook (Arden Hillbillies & Neighborly Arden Hills). *Other suggestions welcome.*

Action Item (AI): Kerri will contact Hannah about finalizing the flyer and create a Facebook event.

2. Lindey's Roundabout Weeding

Some AH residents have expressed concerns about the vegetation in the roundabout since it was constructed. The PTRC previously recommended that nothing be done that would result in the city being forced to take over maintenance (currently the county's responsibility). However, the county failed to mow the vegetation in 2024, resulting in weeds (yellow sweet clover) going to seed. This year, Kerri and Nancy have been communicating with the county to find out if we can have a volunteer event to pull the yellow sweet clover before the problem gets worse. The latest word is that the city will need to fill out a permit application prior to the weeding event. The information was shared with Lucas, who said he will check with the county to find out what type of traffic control will be required. That will likely affect whether the event takes place on a weekday or weekend.

AI: Kerri and/or Nancy will follow up with Public Works and set a date for the volunteer event in late June.

3. Potential Cummings Park Project

Kerri provided some background: she was contacted by a resident living adjacent to Cummings Park about a year ago with concerns about the ash removal in the northwest corner of the park and questions about what the city planned to plant in that space to prevent invasive species from filling in. The city doesn't currently have a procedure in place for revegetation beyond planting additional trees/shrubs to replace ash trees. Kerri had spoken with members of Public Works in late spring of 2024 to discuss the site, the city's plans, and potential restoration options. The biggest concerns would be site preparation and long-term maintenance.

Kerri recently reached out to employees at Boston Scientific to discuss a partnership in this potential project and the initial response has been favorable. She also wrote to the residents who live adjacent to the park and is hoping to meet with them to discuss their priorities (screening, sun/shade, etc.). It will also be important to discuss this with the city's new Parks

Manager—once one is hired—to determine how much effort Public Works staff can put towards weed management/site prep. Once a finalized plan has been developed, it will need to be presented to the PTRC for approval.

AI: Develop a plan in coordination with neighboring residents, Boston Scientific employees, and Public Works.

4. Parks Passport Program

Kerri has offered to donate some native plants as prizes for the new Parks Passport program—on behalf of Arden Hills Greening—as a form of promotion for the group. Participants will need to turn in their booklets at City Hall in order to receive their prizes; Matthew said that he can keep them watered.

AI: Kerri will need to select plants to donate and find out when they will need to be ready.

5. Chatham Signage

Robert is working on creating a variety of informational signs to educate park visitors about the restoration work that is happening at Chatham: from signs about buckthorn to hang near brush piles to signs about the revegetation efforts where the planting has been done. Kerri offered to help with laminating.

The meeting ended at 1:55pm.

NEXT MEETING:

Sunday, April 27 3-5pm: Dunn Brothers (upstairs)