

Town of Laurel Park

Parks and Greenways Board: Invasive Species Committee

April 3, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Town Hall Meeting Room

Robert Fain - Chair
Anne Hartig - Member
Paula Thum - Member

John McGregor - Member
Laurel Crowell - Member
Jeff Heath - Member

Also Present: Brandon Johnson, Alex Carmichael

Minutes

1. **Call to Order** at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Robert Fain.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda unanimously approved by committee members. There were no additions to the agenda and the agenda was approved.
3. **Public Comment:** There was no public comment.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the March 6, 2024 Meeting:**
Minutes were reviewed and approved by all of the committee members.
5. **Alex Carmichael addressed the committee:**
 - a. Will Coffee is now employed elsewhere and will not be working with Laurel Park.
 - b. Todd Gizzi will be returning on May 1st and will continue with the 'devining' projects in Laurel Park.
6. **Report from Parks and Greenway liaison John McGregor:**
 - a. Work has been continuing at the Lake Drive pollinator garden and in the large wooded area adjacent to that garden.
 - b. Brian Hensley, a LP Public Works technician, recently led a work group in this area with lawn seeding and the building of a footpath bridge was part of that project

7. Old Business:

- a. Robert showed the committee the four 'proceed with caution' signs he had made to be posted on the roadways to protect workers when 'devining' work is being done.
- b. Laurel presented a draft of her bulk mailing letter to the Laurel Park residents and the content was discussed with the committee. Anne will work with Laurel in the editing of the draft.
- c. Laurel reported on the March 28 presentation here in Laurel Park that she attended. Steve Pettis was one of the presenters.

8. New Business:

- a. Recommendation that this committee gather information on possible solutions to the increasing deer population. Anne is on the Bee Committee and will discuss this issue with that committee.
- b. Possible May work day with Will Coffee in attendance.
- c. Question as to where a specific map that shows the areas that have been 'devined' in Laurel Park can be found online.
- d. An area in lower Laurel Park has invasive *Ficaria verna*/lesser celandine (fig buttercup) growing in 3 separate colonies. At the end of today's meeting Paula, Brandon and Robert will go to the area where this invasive plant has been noted. Brandon was given information on what specific chemicals can be utilized to combat this invasive.
- e. "No Mow May" is almost here. Signage will be placed in Laurel Park public areas.
- f. Robert will write the May/June newsletter article.

9. Next Meeting Date: May 1, 2024

10. Adjournment: 1035 AM

Attested



Paula Thum