

Planting Plan Subcommittee (PPSC) Minutes of the April 15, 2021 Meeting

Attendees: Kristin Bianconi, John Bradley, Gloria Lewis, Kathy Proctor, Fran Thomforde

This meeting was held at the Lakemoor Legacy Park and Garden (LLPG), and convened at 3:15PM.

The agenda was circulated in advance, and the minutes follows that agenda. Also circulated in advance of the meeting were the narrative summary of the consolidated planting plan proposal, including associated plant lists. In the prefacing discussion it was agreed that the narrative summary is intentionally “conceptual” and not burdened with the level of detailed discussion that occurred during the development process. It was also agreed that the planting plan lists are recommendations, and are not intended to be complete or exhaustive. Not all plants listed will be sourced and planted, and “substitutes” are to be expected.

Review, revision and approval of the consolidated LLPG planting plan proposal, including the plant lists and the colored annotated map

No comments or corrections were made to the circulated narrative summary, plant lists, or colored annotated map of LLPG. The PPSC members were asked to do a final review and submit modifications, if any, within 1 week, after which these proposal documents will be considered approved and final. It was noted that these documents will serve to represent the PPSC proposals to the LLPG Committee and the Garden Club Executive Committee (GCEC).

Further discussion of the Gathering Place trellis and vines and the Gathering Place “floor”

The discussion revealed lesser enthusiasm for a metal trellis, and more for a more “natural” wooden structure. There was concern that the structure must be strong enough to withstand unintended stresses, eg children climbing on it. The current favored structure would be a wooden rail fence about 4’ tall. It was recognized that this is not tall enough to fully screen the back of the Little Library. This could be addressed by lowering the Little Library or by extending mesh from the top of the fence to the rear roof edge of the Little Library. There is a desire to make the Little Library reachable by children, but tall enough to be comfortably used by adults. This may be accomplished by lowering the Little Library by about 1+’.

The current favored vine is Clematis armandii, which is evergreen and has a scented white flower display in the spring.

The current favored “floor” for the Gathering Place is leveled/graded dirt covered by mulch. This would be relatively inexpensive and not “permanent”. Furthermore, it would allow easy extension/expansion of the graded area in the future.

Removals of selected perennials, shrubs and trees from the South Entrance, Gathering Place, and East Entrance

It was confirmed that the PPSC favors removal of Chrysogonum, Amsonia, and Anemone japonica from the South Entrance. These plants will be conserved: the Chrysogonum will be replanted directly into the Raingarden; the Amsonia (native) and Anemone japonica (non-native) will be potted and held pending a disposition.

It was confirmed that hostas, daffodils and the evergreen azalea will be removed from the Gathering Place. The daffodils and azalea will be conserved to the extent possible and will be relocated inside or outside of LLPG. Removal of the multi-trunk redbud at the front corner of the Gathering Place is desired for multiple reasons, two of which are to facilitate installation of the trellis/rail fence and to facilitate the success of the vine covering it.

It was confirmed that the variegated sedge flanking the East Entrance steps will be removed to make room for rosemary (upper half) and St John's wort (lower half), but this removal will not occur until the replacements are acquired, and the removal may be partial until the replacements get established.

Formulation of a proposal to the website working group and GCEC for "memorial" donations

Kathy Proctor presented online information from the Atlanta Botanical Garden and Cheekwood Garden as examples, and offered to draft a proposal for the consideration and approval of the GCEC. It was noted that this must be consistent with the policies of the Lakemoor Hills Homeowners' Association and its Resource Council.

Sourcing of plant materials

It was noted that the virtual call to the Garden Club members for spring ephemeral contributions was not particularly successful. While the process can be repeated for summer and fall blooming perennials, other approaches must be considered. To leverage the interest of Garden Club members who participated in the Norris Dam wildflower hike on April 15, 2021, Kathy Proctor offered to email those members to see if they have or know of neighbors who have wildflowers that could be donated to LLPG. Other direct peer-to-peer approaches were discussed.

PPSC members are aware of wildflower rescue organizations, garden club plant sales, and favorite commercial nurseries. They were asked to provide a brief description of the rescue organizations and favored nurseries, including their contact information/addresses so that can be archived in the PPSC minutes. Multiple PPSC members indicated their intention to attend upcoming garden club plant sales.

Reallocation/redistribution of Raingarden perennials

It was agreed that this will be a "rolling" process as existing plants emerge, and does not require a pre-specified planting plan. Plants that are over-abundant, eg the round-leafed ragwort, will be selectively reduced and some of it will be replanted in other areas of the Raingarden. Some plants may warrant "supplementation" with additional specimens of the same species, eg Jacob's Ladder. Kristin agreed to organize a work part with the LLPG Committee to facilitate this work.

Watering of new transplants

It is assumed that recently moved plants will require watering through the next few months if rainfall is insufficient. This will also need to be coordinated via the LLPG Committee.

What can we progress pending response from the GCEC?

It is the PPSC's intent to get the consolidated planting plan proposal to the GCEC in one week. The timeline for GCEC deliberation and action is unknown. The PPSC agreed that substantial purchases, eg of shrubs, should wait for GCEC response, but perennial planting may proceed as plants become available. Because the changes to the Gathering Place floor are minimal cost and not permanent, that

work can proceed as well. On the other hand, the installation a trellis/rail fence will await GCEC approval.

No new business was added to the agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

John D Bradley

PPSC chair