

TAVISTOCK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes

Weds., June 10, 2026

735 Burnley Rd.

7:00PM

- **In Attendance:** Annie Baker, Rose Passarella, Carol Roth, Tim Wilson, Charlotte Rouviere, Marc Kaplan, Andy Depenbusch, Rob Measley, Eileen Measley, Meredith Stewart Tweedie
- **Call meeting to order-** President Eileen Measley led the meeting and called it to order at 7:04PM
- **Treasurers Report -** Annie Baker
 - Current budget review
 - Started the year with \$23,000; snow removal refund of \$1500 received
 - 2026 dues collection – \$14,000 to date, 90% of houses; another notice will be sent out at the end of the week; signs also posted around the neighborhood
 - Block party costs a little more than \$2000; E2 contributed \$400
 - Paid half expenses for yard sale (advertisement, signs) - \$300
 - Total expenses- \$14,000; Ending balance \$25,319
 - Vote: Approve treasurer's report- there was no further discussion
 - Motion to Approve: Meredith
 - Second: Tim
 - The treasurer's report was unanimously approved by the committee
- **Committee reports**
 - Columbia Place- Frank Maderich
 - Nothing new to report. Building continues at a steady pace.
 - Community Outreach- Eileen
 - Summer Driveway Pop Up Happy Hours
 - June- Kerstetters (tentative)
 - July- Andy and Erin Depenbusch
 - August- TBD
 - Sept- Meredith and Jameson
 - Website/ Communications committee- Maria Jose Pacheco and Meg Campbell
 - Annie proposed to enable us to add people to e-mail distribution list if they opt-in (need to add an opt-in check box)
 - Some neighbors were not aware that they needed to opt-in for emails

- Proposed that if neighbors provide their e-mail on the form, that will equal “opting in”
 - Marc proposed to have e-mail mailing group lists for each Area to make it easier for Reps.

- Edenridge liaison- VP Lottie Zapisek/Annie Baker
 - Block Party report-
 - Good attendance- over 100 people estimated
 - Proposal to move the party to September 2027
 - Yard sale report
 - Very successful, 23+ houses participated,

- Tree committee- Robert Measley
 - We planted 15 trees this Spring, completed last week by Stein Tree Service. 3 species: Serviceberry, Japanese Lilac, and Hedge Maples. Initially the wrong hybrid of Serviceberry was planted; these were removed and replaced with the proper hybrid. It was due to a nursery mix-up. All have Tregator bags around the trunk and are mulched appropriately. Residents need to fill the bag once a week; it will drain slowly over the next 5 to 9 hours.
 - Tree plantings, like everything else, have gotten more expensive. Our average cost this year was \$733 per tree.
 - Next year we will try to get bids from several other companies to make sure we are getting a fair price.
 - We will continue to monitor the DE Urban Forestry site for grant applications, for any changes in the program requirements
 - This Saturday the Tree Committee will do the annual Walk-through to assess the trees for pruning and take-downs. We estimate no more than 10-15 Ash trees are left.

- Deed Restrictions- Dave Gazillo, not present, no report

- Storm Drains/swales- Eileen
 - Eileen will contact New Castle County Parks maintenance about clearing the overgrown vegetation from Husbands Run across Mt. Lebanon to help prevent flooding of the roads.
 - All residents are reminded that the swales in between their backyards and the street swales need to be kept clear of all yard debris, this is the responsibility of each homeowner. These swales are the originally designed system for removing water from our properties and moving water to storm drains and catch basins, which in turn moves the water

away from the neighborhood under Mt Lebanon Rd and into Husbands Run.

- As always neighbors are reminded that there are utility easements on either side of the backyard swales. Never dig in the easements or anywhere else in your yard without contacting Miss utility to mark the areas where underground lines are at., phone: 811 website: Delmarva811.com
- Community Safety- Dave, Annie, Andrew Conine
 - Nothing new to report
- **Old business**
 - Facebook page – no updates
- **New business**
 - Taunton traffic circle- neighbor at circle still concerned about drivers taking a shortcut the wrong way around the circle. Elected officials and DelDot have been contacted about this by said neighbor. January 2025 DelDot placed new ONE-WAY signs in the circle, the new signs are lower and have a larger font making them easy for all cars going around the circle to read. They said that they would paint bright yellow directional arrows in the street, if needed. Councilperson Dee Durham suggested that our neighbor contact the University of Delaware to see what options they may offer. We will monitor the situation.
 - Recruiting for new Board members; The Tavistock association was set up to encourage a rotation of residents to take turns serving on the board, enabling neighbors to have a better understanding about how our community works.
- **Next meeting date:** September - TBD
- **Meeting adjourned**
 - There being no further business to discuss, the motion was duly made by Annie to adjourn the meeting. The President adjourned the meeting at 7:53.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Robert Measley, Sec'y

