

2026 APRIL 1st UF Committee Meeting Minutes

Meet at Marian's home April 1st, 6pm. 2111 Lakemoor Dr. SW.

Open to all KL residents. Zoom was open & monitored (no one attended the meeting using zoom).

- Call to Order and Attendees:
 - Ellen Wendt (Committee Member), Becki Lee, Amber Lee, Larry Determan, Jesse Dixon, Marian Bailey - Chair. Committee Member Maggie Marchand was absent.

- Comments? Verbal or emailed (emailed to mmbmwm@comcast.net) – None at the start.
- Additions to agenda? No formal additions, but the agenda is loose enough to toss ideas out.
- Welcome new attendees and each attendee to give a bit of background on themselves.

- Review of projects/events/issues since last meeting (late 2025).
- Trail cleanup, Children's Forest cleanup, entrance trees trimmed, mulch spread, announced (again) Hiway 101 Homeless Encampment Cleared/Cleaned by WSDOT, trees planted in some root rot areas.

- Basic Info for new attendees
 - A brief explanation of UF history & former projects for new folks.
 - A brief review of the Mission & Goals Statement of Urban Forest.
 - UF Committee meets semi-annually or quarterly, as needed.
 - Resident Volunteers assist in maintaining the forest and projects such as:
 - Removing down-fall from trail
 - Managing invasive species
 - Planting and watering new transplants
 - Education events
 - Kiosk Information
 - Trail Clean up (~2x yr)
 - Maintaining entry log-barrier (slow cyclists exiting the forest)
 - Seasonal Gnome Forest Walk (creating needle-felted Gnomes & placing them)

- Suggested Projects & Discussion.
 - *Conduct UF Introduction Walks for new residents*
 - For new residents: Make a brochure on the UF w/ a map. [MMB to do](#)
 - Give brochure to Erin Murray to add into the New Resident Package. [MMB to do](#)
Add Committee Chair contact info to brochure. If someone contacts the Comm.

Chair for more info or a walk, they will be connected with one of the UF volunteers Becki, Jesse, Karen or Larry who can take them on an introductory walk.

- *Consider setting up a monthly walk conducted by this group.*
- Each UF volunteer could do 2-3 walks a year. Maybe not so much in rainy season. Perhaps ?? an evening in spring/summer/fall & in winter a weekend morning? Can see bats at dusk in summer/fall. *Requesting interested Volunteers to run the walks, please. Needs follow up.*
- *OR form a walking group for exercise and fellowship? Any interested Volunteers to head this up??* • *Mushroom ID walk?*
 - Amber and Jesse expressed interest in this. Perhaps they can team up to learn some of mushrooms & do a walk w/ folks sometime? Marian doesn't plan to learn mushrooms.

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- *Conduct an Intro to Plant ID for Kids and Adults Any interested Volunteers to head this up?* • *Conduct Children's Nature Walks Any interested Volunteers to head this up??*
- Any other Discussion, Ideas or Volunteer commitments?
 - *Figure out more Thatch Ant protection.*
 - Jesse suggested more educational info regarding the value of thatch ants will dissuade people (kids?) from using a stick to stir the nest??
 - Put Kiosk Ant poster up when they start moving again. **MMB**
 - Find more helpful info on the web, hang more educational sign near them. **MMB** • *Root Exposure issues from trail compaction.*
 - Jesse volunteers on trail work w/ WTA. He suggested using the WTA method of putting a mesh cover over the root and of building out ramp to/from exposed root. Need to use nearby dirt, takes a group about 2-4 hours per root.
 - All should watch a u-tube video by WTA.
 - All attendees thought it was worth trying. Need to schedule a 4 hr time slot w/ some vols to do one. **MMB to coord scheduling.**
 - **MMB to coord w/ Jesse to select specific root, what tools are needed, get mesh, etc.** • *Children's Forest Request*
 - Making a tepee from branches is hard, it falls down too easily and are too small. ○ A request as made to have a pole erected that has cuts in it so branches would stay stable in a tepee form.
 - Discussion brought up potential insurance issues w/ doing a free-standing pole. It might fall or the tepee might fall and hurt someone. The HOA might be liable. **Jesse will look into 'safety code for a standing pole'**. Would erecting a substantial pole mean a cement base? Do we want to do that in the forest? How to erect a pole was not discussed.

- Suggestion was made to use a rope between trees and lean branches on either side to create a 'lean-to or tent' form.

- Close the meeting.

To Do List:

MMB:

- 1) brochure on the UF w/ a map, contact info, provide (electronic / print) to Erin Murray. 2) Put Kiosk Ant poster up when they start moving again.
Find more helpful info on the web, hang more educational sign near them.
- 3) Coord scheduling on Root Protection, buy appropriate mesh.
Work w/ Jesse to select specific root, what tools are needed, etc.

Jesse:

- A) Work w/ Marian to select specific root, what tools are needed, etc. for Root Protection
- B) Look into 'safety code for a standing pole'.
- C) Learn mushrooms of UF. Amber is going to as well. Do an educational walk sometime.

Amber:

- a) Learn mushrooms of UF. Jesse is going to as well. Do an educational walk sometime.