

Advisory Committee on Trees – April 24, 2018

Call to order, 7:15

Present: Charles Jackman (chair), Brian Townsend (staff liaison and Assistant Director Parks/Public Works), Ethel Dutky (recorder), Robert Trumbule (member).

Review and approve March minutes with one correction.

Old Business

1 – Arbor Day Proclamation presented by City Council

All ACT members attended the City Council meeting on March 26 to accept the Arbor Day Proclamation.

2 - Arbor Day Tree planting at Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

All ACT members participated in the event. The day was cold and windy. There was a good turnout of volunteers, and all trees were promptly planted and mulched. Public Works remained to stake the trees after most of the volunteers left. It was a successful event.

3 – Rain Garden at 20 Ridge Rd opening ceremony.

One ACT member, (Charles Jackman and wife, Judi Bordeaux) attended this event. A big crowd showed up including many Greenbelt City Council members, one County Council member and one State Delegate. The rain garden looked very nice.

4 – Bob Trumbule has supplied handouts and a Riker mount on the Spotted Lantern Fly. The handouts include a fact sheet on the Spotted Lantern Fly and two fun sheets for kids on this new pest. ACT will help distribute these materials as part of the Public Works Open House on May 19. Ethel Dutky volunteered to be present to explain the Riker mount which shows specimens of the Lantern Fly and also several other important new invasive pests, and some native “look alike” insects. ACT plans to briefly discuss this new pest on the Tree Tour. ACT will also show participants how to identify the Ailanthus tree which is essential to the establishment of the Spotted Lantern Fly. ACT members will show up at about 11AM and the Tree Tour will depart at 1PM.

New Business

1 – Display and archive for Arbor Day Proclamations and Awards.

Charles brought in the original copies of the Arbor Day Proclamations awarded from 2001 to the present. We discussed the appropriate place to archive these documents. Brian mentioned that Public Works has a box of awards (trophies) and a banner for Tree awards. Since these awards recognize tree planting and maintenance done by Public works, we discussed the possibility of their storage and display at Public Works. Other possibilities include the Greenbelt Museum or the Municipal Building. No final decision was reached.

2 – Bob Trumbule announced that he has been appointed to serve another 3 year term on ACT.

3 – WSSC Water Line Repair/Replacement Program.

Brian shared the maps and plans for replacement of several water main lines (ranging in sizes of 8”, 16” and 20”). The old lines will be abandoned. The new lines will be installed in wooded areas by boring. Some areas will be excavated to install parts. About 11 large trees will need to be removed. Large trees near the path of the lines may have the roots “shaved”. This plan is a better alternative to the former proposal to clear cut long swaths of trees and dig open trench to install the new lines. Areas where large trees were removed will be replanted with 7 small under-story trees such as Redbud and

Hop Hornbeam. In addition, 11 native shrubs will also be used to fill in disturbed areas. No large trees will be used to replant near the new lines.

4 – Brian announced that Public Works has finished the tree planting along Lakecrest Drive.

5 – Progress on the Urban Forest Tree Master Plan.

Davey Resource Group has finished the corrections to the documents (a long version and a short version). These will be presented to City Council and at a public hearing prior to final acceptance and approval by the City. ACT will be provided with copies of the documents for review.

Adjourn 8:45 PM.

Next ACT meeting will be Tuesday, May 29, 2018 at 7PM at Public Works.

Submitted by Ethel Dutky