

## **Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT) Minutes - August 9, 2022**

Present: Charles Jackman (chair), Brian Townsend (liaison and Assistant Director Public Works and Parks), Ethel Dutky (recorder), present via telephone was Bob Trumbule (member).

Call to order 7:11 PM

### **Old Business**

#### 1 - Review street tree lists

We went through two tree lists: Recommended Tree Species for Greenbelt Parks - April 5, 2016, and Recommended Trees for Use under Power Lines – July 12, 2015. We reviewed these lists and eliminated trees which had qualities which we thought were not desirable for street tree use. These qualities included messy fruit, messy flowers, need for frequent pruning, and other problems. In many cases specific cultivars are available which are acceptable for street tree use.

#### 2 – American Chestnut groves for Greenbelt Parks.

There are a few cultivars of American Chestnut with excellent resistance to the disease Chestnut Blight. ACT supports finding areas in our parks to plant groves of these resistant Chestnut cultivars.

### **New Business**

#### 1 - Storm damage to street trees and park trees.

Brian reported that over 140 street trees were damaged by a recent storm occurring on July 12, which resulted in extensive blocking of streets. In addition, many trees were damaged (uprooted, split, etc.) in forests, parks and home landscapes. Public Works devoted three crews (about 17 people) and many hours to these damaged trees. First priority was placed on street trees blocking roads. These crews worked every day for over two weeks to clear trees blocking roads. This work continues. Over \$80,000 has been devoted to this task. First priority was placed on dangerous damaged trees.

#### 2 - Committee and Board Chairs Meeting

Charles attended this meeting to report on ACT. He reported what caused the sudden death of the large longleaf pine at the entrance to Schrom Hills Park (lightning strike). Reports from all Committees and Boards are posted on the City website.

Next meeting September 20 at 7PM at Public Works

Respectfully submitted by Ethel Dutky