

Advisory Committee on Trees - November 29, 2022

Present: Charles Jackman (Chair), Bob Trumbule (member), Ethel Dutky (recorder), Brian Townsend (Liaison and Assistant Director Public Works and Parks), Xavier Courouble (guest).

Called to order at 7:05 P.M.

Reviewed minutes from October 25, 2022. Accepted as corrected.

Old Business

1 – Tree planting near Greenbriar Condominiums.

This issue primarily concerns the replacement of street trees, which are mostly Bradford pear trees with weak branches that are prone to break in storms with higher winds. Since the street trees can be affected by the shade caused by the trees on Greenbriar Condominiums' property, there needs to be coordinated efforts between Public Works and Greenbriar Condominiums staff regarding the many trees in this area.

After much discussion on the replacement street trees, it was decided that alternating 'Accolade' elm and Ginkgo biloba (male) trees could be used. These would be planted twenty feet from each other and at least fifteen feet from any corner. It was also suggested that one company (perhaps Manuel A. Morales Tree Service) be hired to remove the Bradford pear trees and another company be hired to plant the replacement trees.

This issue will be discussed and finalized at the next ACT Meeting.

New Business

1 – Oak trees.

It was noted that both red oaks and white oaks are having problems in the region. The last several years of alternating very wet periods with a couple of weeks of very dry weather is hard on these trees.

2 – Deodar cedar in Schrom Hills Park.

Protection from lightning is needed for this very significant and former County champion tree. Brian Townsend will seek an estimate for the cost of this defense.

3 – Replacement tree for the former Longleaf Pine in Schrom Hills Park.

The very large longleaf pine was struck by lightning in the fall of 2021 and,

unfortunately, died in 2022 as a result. It was suggested that a fast-growing dawn redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) be planted in its place at the upcoming 2023 Arbor Day event. This issue will be further discussed at the next ACT meeting.

4 – Fallen trees near Dora Kennedy French Immersion school.

Greenbelt Public Works staff will remove the several fallen trees near the Dora Kennedy French Immersion school.

Adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Next meeting is January 17, 2023, at 7 P.M. at Public Works.

Respectfully submitted by Charles Jackman