

Advisory Committee on Trees – October 15, 2024

Present: Brian Townsend (Liaison and Assistant Director Public Works), Charles Jackman (Chair), Robert Trumbule (member), Bill Phelan (guest), Matt Sickle (guest).

Called to order - 7:15 PM

The September 3, 2024, ACT Meeting minutes were approved as written.

Old Business

1 – Buddy Attick Park Master Plan

A Report to the City Council with ACT's concerns about the Buddy Attick Park Master Plan (BAPMP) was sent to Greg Varda (Director of Recreation for the City of Greenbelt) on September 12, 2024. The BAPMP will be discussed in a City Council Work Session on Wednesday, October 16, 2024. C. Jackman plans on attending the Work Session remotely.

New Business

1 – Ash tree on Ridge Road.

B. Townsend noted that one of the Ash trees by 11 Ridge Road, which has been treated for about 20 years for Emerald ash borer problems appears to be dying. Matt Sickle (guest) attended the meeting and was concerned about its condition since he lives relatively close to the tree. It was recommended by B. Townsend and agreed by the two ACT members that the tree needs to be removed.

2 – PEPCO planting trees.

B. Townsend reported that PEPCO will be planting a few trees near the Greenbelt Museum as part of their effort to plant one tree for each tree they remove.

3 – Shade trees near Greenbelt Community Gardens.

B. Townsend reported that Public Works personnel will be removing some more shade trees near the Greenbelt Community Gardens this fall.

4 – Recently planted trees near Greenbelt Lake.

B. Townsend reported that Public Works personnel recently planted two Metasequoia (Dawn Redwood) trees near Greenbelt Lake.

5 – Bill Phelan (guest) report

B. Phelan noted that several volunteers were planting trees near the Greenbelt Community Gardens perimeters and in other spots in Greenbelt. He also asked that more Pawpaw trees be planted near the Gardens and B. Townsend indicated that Public Works personnel would follow through with this request.

6 – White oak tree near Crescent Square Apartments.

B. Townsend reported that a White oak tree near Crescent Square Apartments was leaning. He was concerned that a storm accompanied with high winds could possibly take it down. After some discussion, it was recommended by the ACT that crown reduction of the White oak would reduce the risk of the tree being blown down in a storm.

Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Next ACT meeting – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Jackman