

Advisory Committee on Trees – March 20, 2018

Call to order 7PM

Present: Brian Townsend (staff liaison and Assistant director of Public Works-Parks), Charles Jackman (chair), Ethel Dutky (recorder), Bob Trumbule (member).

Review and approve February 2018 minutes with correction of Brian's new title.

Old Business

1 - WSSC Upgrade

Bob Trumbule attended one meeting with Greenbelt Public Works and WSSC and Greenbelt citizens on the WSSC plans. Future meetings will be needed to address serious concerns expressed by citizens.

2 – Arbor Day Activities

Brian showed us detailed plans and tree list for the Arbor Day activities scheduled for Saturday, April 7 at the Spring Hill Lake Recreation Center. The site is wet and needs shade trees adapted to wet sites. ACT was pleased with the choice of trees: Sycamore, Black Gum and Swamp White Oak. Brian also shared the detailed schedule for this event which will run from 10AM to noon. Public Works will provide all trees and materials (tools, gloves, etc.). Jason Martin will help with the volunteers.

3 - Tree Tour as part of the Public Works Open House on May 19.

One concern we noticed was that the time for starting the tour was later than we had selected (noon) at our last meeting. After discussion, we decided to go with the time that had been put out already in publicity (1 PM). We discussed the route, and decided we could do it in the time allowed. We decided to include the Maryland Department of Agriculture flyer on a new pest, the Spotted Lantern Fly. This sucking insect was introduced from China last year into Pennsylvania and is moving into Maryland. We will point out how to identify the Ailanthus tree because it is an essential part of the Lantern Fly life cycle. We will encourage citizens to report infestations of this destructive new pest insect. We decided to start the tree tour at Public Works. The first stop will be at Schrom Hills Park, then to the Community Center, then to Green Ridge House (Southern Red Oak) and finally to Buddy Attick Park. Brian will try to get a second bus and driver in case the weather is fine and we have a big turnout.

New Business:

1 – Election of ACT Officers

Charles Jackman was nominated and elected to continue as Chair. Ethel Dutky was elected to continue as the Recorder.

2 - ACT minutes on the City Website.

Charles shared that all ACT minutes from 2010 through January 28, 2018 are up on the City website.

3 – Reminder, Arbor Day Proclamation will be presented at City Council meeting on March 26.

All ACT members plan to attend the City Council meeting on March 26 at 8PM to accept the Proclamation.

Adjourn 8:45 PM.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, April 24 at 7PM at Public Works.

Submitted by Ethel Dutky