

Advisory Committee on Trees – March 15, 2016

Call to order 7PM

Present: Charles Jackman (chair), Brian Townsend (city liaison), Bob Trumbule (member), Ethel Dutky (recorder).

Recommended Tree Species appropriate for Greenbelt Parks

We reviewed and made some additions to the list. Charles volunteered to make the additions and prepare the list as an ACT Report. Charles will submit this report to City Council.

Committee Chairs Meeting

Charles attended the meeting of Advisory Committee and Advisory Board Chairs. Charles presented a report of the Advisory Committee on Trees. This included activities such as Arbor Day Events and the Pepco Tree Pruning/Removal. Five Council members were present. All Advisory Committees and Boards were thanked and praised. Charles noticed that the ACT Report on ice melting salts was not approved by Council. However, Public Works is conducting trials evaluating use of the less phytotoxic CMA in selected areas as an alternative to road salt.

PRAB brought up a question about the status of the Sustainable Land-care Policy Document. No one volunteered any update on this document.

Public Works events and activities

Brian informed us that there will be a new round of Pepco tree removals and pruning on additional feeder lines located along Ivy Lane, Cherrywood Lane, Greenbelt Metro Drive, and parts of Franklin Park. Brian has the maps. We will schedule one or more field trips to examine all trees marked for removal and pruning.

Mr. Fink (Parks Director) is preparing the RFP for the City tree master plan. ACT will participate.

Brian reported on some tree removals planned. Artificial turf is being installed in the dog exercise area at the animal shelter. Several trees will need to be removed as part of this installation. About 7 additional trees will be removed due to disease and damage. Brian is preparing a list of trees for replacement in spots where trees have been removed.

Arbor Day celebration

On Saturday, April 2 we will participate in a tree planting at 10AM in Schrom Hills Park in celebration of Arbor Day. Immediately after the tree planting, we will lead a tree tour.

Next ACT meeting, Tuesday, May 24 at Public Works at 7PM.

Submitted by Ethel Dutky