

## **Advisory Committee on Trees – August 27, 2013**

Called to order 7PM at Public Works

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

July 2 minutes approved

July 23 minutes reviewed and approved with corrections and one addition.

### **Report from Brian Townsend**

Brian gave us a short paper which Mike McLaughlin had asked him to share with us. It is on the topic valuation of trees, titled “What’s a Tree worth?”. We reviewed the well-illustrated paper and have added it to our archives.

Brian presented a proposal from some Greenbelt citizens for a memorial planting of 3 trees with benches in honor of Mr. Doug Love, Ms. Esther Webb, Mr. Bob Auerbach and Mr. Betram Donn, all recently deceased Greenbelt citizens. ACT examined the plans and had several serious concerns about the proposal. First, this proposal represents a large increase in the area devoted to the CHEARS 3 Sisters project. Second, ACT is concerned that this plan, as proposed, impinges on the historic site adjacent to the Community Center. The cluster of benches and additional trees adds clutter to the park area. ACT suggests that perhaps this project could be located in the area at Northway Fields near the observatory. This site is being used for educational activities (hikes, workshops) that utilize the observatory and the Forest Preserve. An improvement of this area for these activities would be a suitable honor to these Greenbelt citizens who were active in ecological and nature study activities.

### **Bob Trumbule and Ethel Dutky presentation for Forest Steward Program on August 3.**

Bob and Ethel presented the final educational session for the Forest Stewards program on the topic of Pest Management in the Forest. Bob gave the students a handy set of illustrated “Pest ID cards” on recently introduced major forest pests and diseases. Bob covered insect and mite pests and Ethel covered diseases. The students showed enthusiasm and interest in the subject, and asked a lot of questions. We were asked to do more presentations on this topic in the future. After the class, Kristen presented each student with a diploma. Pictures were taken in front of the Paw Paw trees.

### **City Council Meeting, August 12.**

Charles and Ethel attended the City Council meeting on August 12. City Council was considering the funding to replace the dead white pine at the municipal building with the large Crape Myrtle, and the proposal to have Bartlett Tree Experts do additional repairs to preserve the large mulberry at Buddy Attick Park. Charles and Ethel were asked questions from council. Members of City Council were familiar with the large mulberry and expressed a lot of support for saving the tree. Both proposals were approved.

### **Sustainable Land Care Policy**

We completed our review and condensation of the entire document. We will do a final review at our next meeting.

Adjourn at 9:30 PM

Next Meeting Sept. 10 at 7 PM at Public Works