

Advisory Committee on Trees Meeting – October 11, 2011

Present: Charles Jackman (chair), Bob Trumbule, Lesley Riddle (city liaison)
The meeting was held at the New Deal Café and started at 7:00 p.m.

Willow Oak Tree near the Youth Center and the Greenbelt Center parking lots

The tree is in decline and is near an area where people walk and vehicles are common. Due to the hazard from falling limbs posed to humans, it was unanimously recommended that the tree be removed.

Public Lands Day project on Saturday, September 24, 2011

Approximately 35 volunteers, including 25 youth, showed up to help in a massive planting project at Buddy Attick Park. About 150 trees and shrubs were planted in a storm-damaged area of the park

Woodland Hills planting

Public Works personnel will undertake a planting here to restore the undergrowth. This will likely take place sometime in November. Since all the trees purchased by the city for replanting storm damaged areas in the city were planted at Buddy Attick Park, Lesley said she would order more trees for the Woodland Hills parcel. Bob Trumbule agreed to work with Lesley to come up with a plant list for that area.

Baltimore Washington Partnership for Forest Stewardship Workshop – October 27

This upcoming workshop will be held at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. Both Lesley Riddle and Bob Trumbule will attend this very high level meeting.

Franklin Park

A Community Development Block Grant of \$74K has been given by the state of Maryland to work on the streets in this community. Of this total, \$30K is for street trees.

Other Business

Bob Trumbule mentioned that while trees are being planted in Greenbelt, perhaps ACT could provide additional direction toward specific recommendation for specific sites. This prompted Charles to bring up an issue that ACT had discussed at an earlier meeting:

Original Resolution in March 2000 by City Council to Establish ACT

It was noted by C. Jackman that ACT is not totally following this resolution. Some discussion took place about the main duties of ACT, which were written in the original resolution as:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee is required to develop and/or annually update, in conjunction with City staff, a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs on public grounds. This plan must be approved by the City Council.”

C. Jackman will propose more appropriate wording that incorporates the actual ongoing work and tasks of ACT over the past several years.

There was discussion about a need for ACT to meet with the Forest Preserve Advisory Board.

There was mention of asking Joe McNeil of the City Department of Recreation and Parks to meet with ACT at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:45 p.m.

The next ACT meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on November 8 at the New Deal Café.