

Advisory Committee on Trees – April 30, 2019

Call to order 7:00 PM

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

Reviewed and approved March minutes with corrections.

Old Business

1 – Additional considerations about large willow oak at Ridge and Hamilton

Brian brought concerns about the removal of the large willow oak at Hamilton and Ridge Roads. ACT was unanimous in their concern about the danger this large tree poses to traffic on Ridge road and pedestrians on the adjacent sidewalk. This tree has extensive internal rot in the trunk. It dropped a very large branch, leaving a large hole in the trunk. ACT voted to support a follow up of the level 2 risk assessment with a more extensive level 3 risk assessment. ACT remains concerned that it is urgent to remove this dangerous tree.

2 – News Review coverage of the Arbor Day Tree Planting event

The Greenbelt New Review did a nice article on the Arbor Day Tree Planting held on March 30 in central Greenbelt. Most City Council members, all ACT members and 65 volunteers participated.

3 - Work Session on the Sustainable Land Care Policy.

Brian announced that the work session will be held on Monday, July 15 at 8PM. Location to be determined.

New Business

1 – Another round of PEPCO Vegetation management.

Brian brought detailed maps of the next round of brush removal, tree trimming and tree removals proposed by PEPCO. To clear around power lines. Pruning and tree removals will be done in the summer and replacement trees will be planted in the fall. ACT will reserve our next meeting to take a field trip to examine all the trees on the removal list.

Next meeting Wednesday May 22, 2019. at 5PM

Adjourn 8:45PM

Submitted by Ethel Dutky