

Advisory Committee on Trees - December 5, 2017

Call to order 7:15 PM

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

Old Business:

1 – Urban Tree Master Plan.

Brian brought copies of the short version (7 pages) for us to review. Brian has spoken to Davey Tree about ACT concerns in the long version (57 plus pages). We still find Table 5, “Comparison of Greenbelt's Management Program to Industry Averages” (page 16, long version) especially confusing. Brian will ask Davey how certain numbers were derived. ACT thinks that without substantiation of these numbers, the table is very misleading. Other cities (e.g. Baltimore) relate canopy cover to the variety and value of the benefits provided by trees. ACT strongly advises that Table 5 needs to be fixed or explained. Brian will follow up on these points with Davey Tree.

2 – Mosquito monitoring and control.

ACT continues to support participation in the Maryland Department of Agriculture monitoring and control program for adult mosquitoes.

New Business

1 – WSSC water main upgrade.

Brian shared details of the WSSC plans for new water mains, meters and fire hydrants. ACT is concerned about unnecessary removal of city trees and citizen's trees. ACT supports methods (such as boring rather than open trench digging) that will reduce damage to existing trees.

Adjourn 9 PM

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 23, 7PM at Public Works

Submitted by Ethel Dutky