

Advisory Committee on Trees – Meeting July 24, 2012

Present: Charles Jackman (Chair), Ethel Dutky (recorder), Bob Trumbule.

The meeting began at 5PM at the New Deal Cafe.

Lesley Riddle was unable to attend due to a recent shoulder injury. We had planned to tour Greenbelt to look at selected problem trees. We walked to the Municipal Building on Crescent Road. We have been very concerned about the large willow oak for several years. It showed top die-back, and we suspect it was hit by lightening. It showed decline and dying branches adjacent to the sidewalk. About 2 years ago the sidewalk was enlarged, damaging about half of the roots of this very large established tree. We noticed that there is a large area on one of the two primary leaders (major trunks) where the bark has fallen away and some fungal fruiting structures are present. We fear that this area is weakened by heart rot and could render this large leader a danger. Removal of this damaged leader would destroy most of the aesthetic value of the tree and leave a very large wound high in the tree. We are sad to conclude that the tree should be removed.

Committee Chairs Meeting on July 30, 2012

Charles will represent ACT at this meeting with City Council

Sustainable Land Care Policy for the City of Greenbelt

Lesley circulated a document via e-mail to ACT. This is her Master's thesis paper. It will serve as the basis for a policy paper for land care and pest management. We agreed to review the document in more detail and be prepared with specific suggestion at our next meeting.

Next meeting was set for Tuesday August 7. The date was changed to Thursday, August 9 at 7PM at the New Deal Cafe.

Meeting adjourned at 7PM

Submitted by Ethel Dutky