

## **Advisory Committee on Trees – September 25, 2012**

Meeting called to order at 7PM

Present: Charles Jackman (Chair), Ethel Dutky (recorder), Brian Townsend (city liaison), Bob Trumbule. (member).

August 9 minutes were reviewed, corrected and approved.

Bob Trumbule presented a document regarding poor tree and brush pruning along BARC roadsides. ACT approved the document, ACT Report 2012-2. Charles will send it on to Cindy Murray, City Clerk to the Greenbelt City Council.

### **Charles reported on status of ACT Reports.**

An Invasive species report was submitted by ACT to City Council in 2004. It was reviewed by various Advisory Boards/Committees. In 2007 ACT submitted a revised Invasive Species Report. Charles was informed that this report has been incorporated into the “Sustainable Land Care Policy” for Public Works. However, review of the draft copy of the Sustainable Landscape Care Policy (SLCP) sent to ACT for review found that none of the content of the ACT Invasive Species document was present. We agreed that we would like for the SLCP document to include the entire ACT document on Invasive Species.

Charles and others went on a tour of Greenbelt Significant Trees held on Saturday, September 22. Charles brought along the nice brochure. Bob questioned the exclusion of ACT in this event, and on the revision of the tree list. There was some disappointment at the poor publicity for this event. The tree tour event was originally an ACT project: “Greenbelt's Best – A Walking Tour of Greenbelt Trees” begun in 2003. We all would have liked to help with this event this year.

Charles asked Cindy Murray about a proposed amendment to the Resolution 908 which established the Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT Report 2011-3). Council will consider it in the next few weeks. Charles will request notification of the meeting so we can answer questions from City Council on our proposed changes.

Status of ACT Report 2011-4 - “Substitution of CMA for Rock Salt” which was submitted on December 27, 2011 to Public Works. Cindy informed Charles that Public Works was working on it. Brian Townsend responded that there are some problems with CMA being much more expensive and must be re-applied more often than rock salt. CMA is routinely used on pavement in Roosevelt Center. Charles should write to Mike McLaughlan to find out the status. Copy Lesley Riddle on this request.

Bob Trumbule handed out information on a two day Symposium coming up on October 29 and 30, “Urban Forestry -Defining an Ecosystem Services Research Agenda”.

**SLCP Document.** ACT will continue to work on this and discuss at our next meeting.

### **Salt damage to Crape Myrtles in parking island near Fitness Center**

Brian led us on a tour of the parking lot to view the pruning that has been done to the damaged Crape Myrtles in the parking lot island. Brian explained the odd distribution of damage, with the plants at the ends of the row showing much less damage than those in the center. This is due to the need for the salt trucks to turn away from the island when making the turn. Brian suggested that parking spacers could be installed to prevent the salt trucks from getting too close to the island plantings. We appreciated Brian's contributions to this and other topics discussed.

Next meeting -October 23, at New Deal. Adjournment at 9PM

Submitted by Ethel Dutky