

## **Advisory Committee on Trees – Minutes for June 22, 2010**

Present: Charles Jackman, Bob Trumbule, Lesley Riddle, Ethel Dutky

We met at the Public Works building at 7:30 PM.

Charles informed us that City Council will meet on July 12 to address our reports on a city Policy for Trees and Vegetation. Lesley has prepared a Pesticide Plan of Action. A primary goal of the plan is to reduce inputs that damage the ecology. #1 on the list is to reduce application of fertilizer. Compost will be used on all athletic fields. Lesley will send copies to ACT and to Green Aces for comment. The plan will continue the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to management of pest outbreaks already in use.

Lesley reported that the Empirian Village project is progressing well. More of the old street trees were found to be in such poor condition showing extensive rot and damage and dead wood. Pruning will not correct these problems, so more trees will be removed than had been estimated in the original plan. The trees are growing into the power lines and are dangerous. One small Maple which will be used in the replacement plan is the Amur Maple.

Lesley reported the following dead tree removals and tree work: One dead pine hanging over the “Mother and Child” statue in Roosevelt Center was removed; Pruning to remove dead wood of an old elm near the Professional Offices; Removal of extensive epicormic shoots from Zelkovas. At Schrom Hills Park a large white oak was a casualty to the recent wind storm and was removed. Charles mentioned that the unimproved path in Schrom Hills needs to be mowed.

Lesley meets with the Forest Preserve Advisory Board. We discussed recent changes in the FPAB. Several new members have joined the FPAB and are proposing some interesting ideas for the development of interpretive programs and other ideas regarding storm water management and habitat enrichment for wildlife and migrating birds. These ideas promise to meet existing needs to protect the Forest Preserve and improve community involvement and appreciation of the Forest Preserve.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.