

**MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE  
TREES AND PUBLIC GREENERY  
7:30 AM – Wednesday, October 10, 2007  
City Hall, City Manager's Conference Room**

**Call to Order:**

Peter Loughlin, Chair  
Steve Parkinson, Public Works Director  
Everett Kern, General Foreman

June Rogers, Member

Also present were Debbie Finnigan, Traffic Engineer and Mr. Rollins.

Peter Loughlin called the meeting to order at approximately 7:35 a.m.

**1. Acceptance of the Minutes** – Minutes of the August 8, 2007 and September 12 meetings were accepted as presented.

**2. Tree Removal Requests**

The Chair stated that Mr. Rollins request was not received in time to post the tree and asked him to briefly explain his request and then it will be scheduled for public hearing at the November meeting. Mr. Rollins stated that two Norway Maples on the sidewalk strip in front of his home is invading his pipes leading toward the sewer, both City side and his side. The City side had to have it roto rooted and he rooted out his side as well. Would like to have it replaced with another tree that is not invasive. The Chair stated that the tree will be posted and all members of the Committee will look at the tree and will come back the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. The Chair explained that the Committee is very reluctant to approve the removal of healthy trees in the City.

Rte. 33 RR Bridge Construction – Debbie Finnigan stated that the tree removal requests are not on City property, they are on the Cavalry Cemetery property. The current plans provided to the members are from the landscape architects for the proposed replacement trees for the tree removals that need to be done to build this project. Debbie Finnigan asked if the proposed trees make sense.

Peter Loughlin felt they were a good selection and questioned the sugar maple at St. Mary's Cemetery as the ones he planted 20, 30 years ago near the roads are all dying. They need to be more than 20 ft from the road. Peter Loughlin asked about the stump.

Debbie Finnigan responded it will be taken down to ground level and covered over. There is room for a tree next to it.

Peter Loughlin suggested a Pin Oak. At Peter Loughlin's suggestion of placing a tree or two at the entrance to the cemetery Debbie Finnigan will ask the architect if this can be done.

Steve Parkinson feels this will be a nice addition to the corridor.

The Chair had a thought that between station 419 and station 420 and maybe across the street there is a big open area there and seems there would be room for a row of trees that could be well back form the road but still fill the area in.

Debbie Finnigan stated that is drainage and is changed from what it is now. Ms. Finnigan suggested putting something at the little section on Greenland Rd but cannot put anything in the drainage ditch.

The Chair thanked Debbie Finnigan and stated she has done a fine job.

**MOTION** made by Steve Parkinson that the planting schedule was approved as presented. Seconded by Everett Kern. Motion passed.

**4. Parade Mall renovations** – The Chair stated that Patrick Crimmins from Appledore will be in next month.

**5. Tree Inventory Report** – Everett Kern, Fred Engelbach and Jason Wise met and are making some progress. Everett Kern stated that they came up with a preliminary form of information they will be collecting but still needs some fine tuning. The Chair will place this on the November Agenda.

**6. Lenore Bronson Resignation** – The Chair informed the Committee that Lenore Bronson has a conflict and has resigned, he will write a note thanking her for her service on behalf of the Committee.

**7. Old Business** – June Rogers thought that if we had a brochure on how to plant trees in the City to show at the Forestry Dept. at the Festival of Trees, so that people will know how we take care of City trees. This event reaches several thousands of people for 3 days. It takes place the week before Thanksgiving.

Steve Parkinson asked to go back to Route 33 for a Motion.

**7. New Business – Adopt-A-Spot** - Greta McEvoy has adopted the parking area island on bridge side of the Connie Bean Center and is asking permission to plant a Bradford Pear Tree at the spot. Steve Parkinson stated that because of the Memorial Bridge work that will be taking place in the fall of 2008 where the islands are going to be reconfigured and reconstruction of the entire parking lot, would not put any kind of a tree there now as it will be disturbed during construction. This is part of the DOT's project and the City is working with them. The large island will be going back in, there will be the opportunity to replant that and will be set up such that you will not be able to access that parking lot from State Street, you will not be able to cut across the intersection to Marcy St., there will be an entrance on the other side of the Daniel St. side of the parking lot.

The Chair stated there is a spot by Rosa's parking lot that could benefit from some plantings. The Chair will send her a note thanking her and suggest that she wait prior to planting the tree because of the construction.

**Memorial Tree for Clotilde Strauss** – Peter Loughlin explained circumstances surrounding the Temple that is being worked on and the request of Stuart Levenson to thank the City and Peter was trying to think of an appropriate area and Mr. Levenson stated they are going to put up a tree facing the Temple to the left. The Chair stated that if you leave some room along Washington St. The Chair would be happy to give them some flowering trees to put there from his tree farm. Stuart Levenson felt it was a good idea and a wall was put in and left a large area 40"-50". In the meantime Clotilde Strauss had a trust and designated Peter Loughlin \$2,000 of the trust to do as he wanted. The Chair thought of putting Japanese Lilacs there in honor of Ms. Strauss with a plaque. Steve Parkinson stated Pierce Island was a favorite of hers.

Peter Loughlin also suggested the corner of Junkins Ave. and Edward St. where the elm tree fell and had to be removed and suggested this be done in conjunction with Ms. Strauss' Memorial Service.

Steve Parkinson suggested placing this on the November Agenda as not all members are present. Pin Oaks and Ginkgo trees were favorites of Ms. Strauss.

Everett Kern referred to removal requests for November's Agenda as follows:

- a. 123 Wibird St. is in rough shape, carpenter ants and is hollowed out
- b. 195 Washington St., the tree is on private property and wanted us to be aware of what he is doing as he needs to take it down in order to work on the house, it is up against his house. The Chair will write a letter to the homeowner.
- c. 23 Whipple Court is a sewer issue, the tree is healthy.
- d. 149 Cass Street, 2 Norway Maples.

Everett Kern informed the Committee that the list of fall plantings has been completed.

**Next Meeting – 7:30 a.m., Wednesday, November 14, 2007**

**9. Adjourned**

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Loughlin, Chairman