

**MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE  
TREES AND PUBLIC GREENERY  
7:30 AM – Wednesday May 14, 2008  
City Hall, City Manager's Conference Room**

**Call to Order:**

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

A.J. Dupre, Community Forester  
Richard Adams, Member  
June Rogers, Member  
Carla Marvin, Member

Peter Loughlin called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 a.m.

- 1. Acceptance of the Minutes** – Minutes of the April 9, 2008 meeting were accepted as presented.

**Tree Removal Request:**

740 Middle Road – Everett Kern stated the tree is in poor shape leaning to one side towards the house and appears unstable.

**MOTION** made by Richard Adams authorizing removal of the tree. Seconded by Steve Parkinson. Motion passed.

- 3. Policy for timing on removal of trees that are leafed out** – Richard Adams referred to Langdon Park trees scheduled for removal and was asked by someone from the Audubon Society if removal could be deferred until after nesting season is over.

Steve Parkinson stated his problem with this is they were recommended for removal, are on a list for removal and if something should happen, a limb come down harming either person or property, the City would be held liable. Peter Loughlin suggested indicating when we make a decision or recommendation we should indicate to the extent it's something that doesn't appear to have an immediacy to it, we recommend that they be removed after nesting. The Chair felt this is a good recommendation and to the extent Public Works can work with this, it makes sense.

AJ stated that if you have a list and it was given to the employee to take tree(s) out and we postpone for whatever reason is, it will be looked at harshly. AJ suggested this could be done as part of the inventory that Mr. Englebach was working on, schedule work in areas that are not in large areas of groupings of trees such as parks and schedule work in those areas in the fall and coordinate as part of the policy.

Steve Parkinson feels in the future when scheduling trees in parks schedule for fall/winter. The ones we have already posted and voted on move to address them now. From a legal standpoint puts the City in too much of a liability.

Everett Kern stated the trees already posted will be down within the month.

The Chair stated as a policy we should keep this in mind.

- 4. Policy regarding minimum caliper/diameter for mandated posting** – The Chair asked when should we need to get involved? By way of background Richard Adams referred to the special meeting to address three trees on the Sagamore Headlands which were remote and nothing the public would be interested in and brought this up for discussion to see if we could set some kind of policy. For example, if we needed or wanted to cut down a few samplings in the Great Bog, do we need to schedule a public hearing? Perhaps this should be addressed as a new tree Ordinance.

Steve Parkinson stated that the current Ordinance is outdated and needs to be looked at and updated.

The Chair stated that Dick Adams has done a draft.

AJ stated it would relate more to where the tree is located rather than the caliper itself.

- 5. Potted trees at The Page restaurant on Hanover Street. (Formerly Bananas)** – The Chair stated that Jason Page brought to his attention that the restaurant contacted the City regarding putting in planters with trees in them along Hanover St.

Steve Parkinson stated that he is not in favor of having additional planters or potted trees on City sidewalks. Every location is different and does not want things on this sidewalk. Here we are widening sidewalks on Market St. and now planters on another sidewalk and diminish the space, No.

**6. Clotilde Straus Memorial Plantings** – Steve Parkinson reported he has not heard from the consultant and will contact him.

**7. Spring Planting Update** – Everett Kern it has commenced and will hopefully finish up tomorrow. The Chair stated that the trees on lower Congress St. look great. Dick Adams stated that throughout the City it looks beautiful and has received comments on how pretty the City looks.

**8. Old Business:**

**Atlantic Heights** - AJ referred to the fact a few seedlings died in the area granted to Lynn and the neighbors. AJ worked with the group, gave them more soil and are putting more seedlings in. Everything else is doing ok. At some point their intention is to come back to us to expand that area.

**Woodbury Avenue** - Dave Desfosses was previously before us and is in need of species for that area of the corridor.

The Chair suggested Pin Oaks and will take another look at the area.

Steve Parkinson stated that a good portion of where he is working is in close proximity of the power lines. Construction will be in two phases, first phase probably in July.

The Chair officially welcomed Carla Marvin to the Committee.

AJ stated that trees along the edge of their property on Elwyn Road will be taken down, two dead pine trees at the end of Taft Rd. at Elwyn Rd.

**8. Next Meeting** —7:30 am, Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Loughlin, Chair