

**MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE
TREES AND PUBLIC GREENERY
7:30 AM – Wednesday, April 8, 2009
City Hall, City Manager's Conference Room**

Call to Order:

Peter Loughlin Chair	Everett Kern, General Foreman
Richard Adams, Vice-Chair	Carla Marvin, Member
Steve Parkinson, Public Works Director	A.J. Dupere, Community Forester

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

1. **Acceptance of the Minutes** – Minutes of the March 11, 2009 meeting were accepted as presented.
2. **Tree Removal Requests:**
 - 156 Woodlawn Circle** – Everett Kern reported the tree was tagged and is in bad shape. **Motion** made by Richard Adams to remove tree. Seconded by Everett Kern. Motion passed.
AJ stated that the small maple tree next to it still needs additional pruning, there are two broken limbs on the top. The residents thanked the committee for removal of that tree.
 - 137 Wibird Street** – The tree was tagged and has excessive amount of rot inside the tree and AJ added there is a large cavity with something inside it that moved. **MOTION** made by Richard Adams to remove. Seconded by Steve Parkinson. Motion passed.
 - 93 Colonial Drive** – AJ stated it is in poor condition, lost approx. 2/3 of the top. **MOTION** made by Steve Parkinson to remove. Seconded by Richard Adams. Motion passed. Everett Kern abstained.
3. **Cornerstone Tree Care Offer Update** – Steve Parkinson reported their letter went to the City Council Monday night and was approved. They are getting us their insurance and told them we will take care of any police detail that is needed. The Chair suggested that the press be there that day and Steve Parkinson will take care of that.
4. **Tree at Library for former City Poet Laureate, Robert Dunn Update** – Richard Adams reported that he and AJ went there yesterday and selected a possible site and asked that Everett look at it. Everett reported he was there looking for a site. AJ responded the site they selected as where the temporary barricades are for snow removal, closer to the path away from where that snow will land, there's a light pole and a dwarf crab in that corner. It is the parking lot entrance closest to the front entry of the library on the left hand side of the main entrance. AJ will look into available species.
5. **Islington St and Market St. Improvements follow-up** – Steve Parkinson reported that there was another public meeting on the Islington St. corridor, the project is continuing subject to the funding. The Market St. project, in process of trying to get federal funding and will go forward once the funding is secured and hopefully both will go forward.
6. **Tree Ordinance Update** – The Chair will report back next month.

7. **Little Harbor School plantings** – AJ met with the school custodian. The teachers and students are looking for a tree to plant at the school and AJ looked at a few sites that the custodian recommended. There are trees not doing well due to damage by weedwacking damage. Both sides of the school are going to receive drainage work and are working with DES. The school is planning on doing something on Arbor Day. They are looking to us for the purchase of the tree as their budget can't absorb it. They will put it in the ground or Public Works do it. Steve Parkinson stated that we will provide the tree. AJ recommends for the teachers and students to do some work around the grounds such as pruning, mulching, etc. and am willing to do some training for their crew. There are a couple of birches that need pruning that have dead hanging limbs. Everett Kern stated they have a tree service. They would like to do this on Arbor Day. AJ would like to be involved with this and is trying to get one of his staff or someone he can trust as he can't be there. AJ will take care of this.
8. **Arbor Day Activities** – April 24th is Arbor Day and we need to do Arbor Day as part of Tree City application. This could be part of the school work which AJ would set up if the Committee wanted. The Chair referred to the spot near North Church that needs a tree. Steve Parkinson suggested planning something in May for Everett to have a chance to put together the requests he has and get prices. AJ will look at the tree around downtown and bring back something at the next meeting. Steve Parkinson asked AJ to look at the very large tree they want to cut down at handicap ramp that comes down from the Church towards Pleasant St. Mr. Parkinson's thought was to install curbing around the area, remove the bricks and make a planting bed in there to eliminate a tripping hazard over the roots eliminate the unevenness and asked AJ to see if there would be any danger to the root system in doing that. Everett Kern has a list of tree requests. AJ and Dick will do a drive around. The Chair asked for planting on Thaxter Rd., several trees have been taken down and there are several openings there.
9. **Old Business** – Everett Kern reported that 700 Middle (corner of Aldrich) would like a replacement and actually there is room for a couple and replacement at 305 Union.
10. **New Business** – Richard Adams reported that at 409 Lincoln Ave. there a new planting and the root ball is partially exposed because it's between the sidewalk and street and the curbing slopes down and ideally another piece of curbing should be put in there to eliminate erosion unless you have another solution. AJ stated it is a water issue either from the house or the sidewalk.
11. **Next Meeting** – 7:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter J. Loughlin, Chairman