

BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON Citywide Neighborhood Committee  
Minutes of the March 9, 2010 meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

II. ATTENDENCE

Cristy Cardoso, CNC Chair  
Jim Melfi, CNC Vice Chair  
Sharon Morrison, CNC Steering Committee  
Martin Cameron, Ocean Road  
Jim Melfi, Sherburne  
Merle Harmon, LRRRA  
Louise Chini, Aldrich/Thaxter  
Sue Ford, Frank Jones  
Candace Dolan, Hodgson Brook Restoration Project  
Lou Salome, Spinnaker Point  
Larry Lariviere, Meadowbrook Park

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM January

Jim Melfi moved to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Larry L and voted.

IV. NEIGHBORHOOD REPORTS

a. Atlantic Heights – Cristy Cardoso

- i. Have not had regular meetings over the winter. They will be doing spring clean up this year and will meet in advance to plan. There is some planning happening for Hyslop Park by the Garden Committee. There is an area with walking paths and they are looking to start a revegetation project to restore pines. They are also planning for drainage improvements. There is an Atlantic Heights community garden with 6 plots; they will be petitioning the city for additional plots. Road construction projects: the last 2 streets are being designed for sewer separation and road construction.

b. WAHOO –

- i. Quiet winter. The neighborhood participated in Pennies for Peace.

c. Woodlands – Nancy Clayburgh

- i. There were a series a breakins last year. The neighborhood blog was an important tool in communicating the issue and tracking the suspects. There were a lot of trees that fell during the windstorm. The city was very supportive and responded quickly.

d. Frank Jones –

- i. They are going to have an exhibition at the Atheneum. 2 members of the neighborhood will be participating. The focus will be Frank Jones. The greenery committee is looking for people who need trees. Despite the traffic calming

project, speeding is still a problem. The group will be meeting with the Trust for Public Land regarding placing land under trust for easement. The meeting will be at the Library and will open to the public

- e. Aldrich/Thaxter – Louise Chini
  - i. The group is still organizing.
- f. LRRRA – Merle Harmon
  - i. They are still waiting for the certificates and prizes for the Holiday Decorating Contest. The Chair delivered them to the representative at this meeting.
- g. Sherburne – Jim Melfi
  - i. The DOT is planning to replace the bridge between Pannaway Neighborhood and RJ Lister Academy. The project will last an entire summer and will impact traffic flow. There were some residents who were without power for 2 days after the wind storm. The semi annual meeting will be in April
- h. Candace Dolan – Hodgson Brook Restoration Project
  - i. Project is managed in partnership with Friends of the North Mill Pond. They are doing a demonstration project in the Coakley Road area to demonstrate storm water impact. They installed tree drains and will be installing rain gardens; both help with filtering water going into the storm sewers. The Port City Inn has been a major benefactor. There are several neighborhoods that are in the Hodgson Brook watershed. Candace is interested in working with other neighborhoods for additional storm water projects.
- i. Ocean Road – Marty Cameron
  - i. The city responded quickly and effectively to windstorm damage
- j. Meadowbrook Park – Larry Lariviere
  - i. Had the first meeting of the group on March 1. 3 issues were discussed. 1. What is going on with the Meadowbrook Motel site; 2. There is a home in the neighborhood that has been unoccupied since the owner passed away. The lot and house are looking run down. It has been empty about a year; 3. Neighborhood or Community Garden: They are going to go to PSNH to see about using land under power lines for this project. There was also talk about having a neighborhood party in June.
- k. Christian Shore/Creek – Sharon Morrison
  - i. There was some storm damage, but the neighborhood never lost power and crews were on site the next day. There are several construction projects for the neighborhood: Bartlett St/Islington St sewer separation; Thornton, Pine, and Clinton repaving; Pine Street Park rebuild.
- l. Spinnaker Point – Larry Lariviere
  - i. Are there any neighborhoods that have community gardens? Yes – Atlantic Heights and Cedars Condos. Cedars is a good example for Spinnaker because it is a condo association and they were able to set aside land through a association vote.

## V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Dave Allen, the map of projects will be posted on the website and all of this info with dates will be available online.
- b. Sustainability Fair is May 8, 2010 from 10-3 at Portsmouth Middle School. The plan is to have a presence there, please sign up if you are interested in helping us at a table.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Steering Committee Report
  - i. Based on feedback from the last meeting, we have initiated a series of projects:
    1. Neighborhood Story Series in Seacoast Newspapers: anyone who is interested should contact the Chair. The purpose is to present each neighborhood as a unique and interesting place to live. It's an opportunity to share positive news about living in each neighborhood. One of the ultimate goals is to get more people interested in participating in the neighborhood groups.
    2. Zero Waste Initiative: We will be targeting Zero Waste for National Night Out this year. This is part of the sustainability initiative in the city. We will be holding a contest to incent neighborhoods to participate and reduce waste. The committee will have to work to define the parameters of the contest. Part of the contest will be each neighborhood learning how to have zero waste – for example, how do we compost food waste?
      - a. The Zero Waste Committee has initiated a project to have recycling in downtown. They are interested in procuring funding for recycling bins in the downtown area for bottles, plastics, paper, and food waste. They are going to be working with the schools and the neighborhoods. They are trying to design a receptacle that has bins for each type of recycling and has an educational component. The city is working with this initiative because it will cut the cost of the disposal of garbage. This is being managed in partnership with the Sustainability Committee and the Sustainability Office.
    3. Speaker schedule, based on requests (for example, David Allen)
    4. National Night Out: Rotarian Funding request; Nancy Clayburgh is working with the Chief of Police to obtain funding for NNO from the Rotary.

## VII. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. There was no miscellaneous or unfinished business

## VIII. ADJURNMENT

Sharon Morrison moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and approved at 9:00 pm