## TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE MINUTES OF AUGUST 7, 2014 MEETING

A regular meeting of the Trustees of the Trust Funds for the City of Portsmouth, New Hampshire was held on August 7, 2014 at the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Law Library at Portsmouth City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 a.m.

Present were Trustees Phyllis Z. Eldridge, Dana S. Levenson and Thomas R. Watson. Also present were Peter Torrey, Michael Warhurst, David Allen, Beth Margeson, David Hines and Peter Robbins.

The minutes of the July 24, 2014 meeting were reviewed and, upon motion duly made and seconded, approved.

Payroll and operating expense checks were reviewed and signed.

Mr. Torrey distributed and led a discussion of the revenue and expense summary and balance sheet for the Prescott Park Trust Fund for the period ending July 31, 2014. He also distributed and led a discussion of the revenue and expense summary for the Marine Maintenance Trust Fund for the same period.

Mr. Torrey noted that the Trustees have received notice from Piscataqua Savings Bank that the CD holding funds of the African Burying Ground Fund is subject to renewal on September 1, 2014. He noted that Dave Moore of the Planning Department has indicated that all African Burying Ground funds are likely to be expended this fall. After further discussion, the Trustees unanimously resolved to refrain from renewing the certificate of deposit with Piscataqua Savings Bank and, instead, hold the proceeds currently in the CD in a liquid position pending their disbursement.

Beth Margeson next addressed the Trustees. Ms. Margeson resides at 24 Marcy Street, directly across the street from Prescott Park. Ms. Margeson reported that it has been an exceedingly difficult summer for residents in the neighborhood abutting Prescott Park due to the activities of the Prescott Park Arts Festival. Particularly, she noted:

- The noise level associated with the plays and musical performance of PPAF has increased.
- PPAF's performances start later this year than in past years or as advertised, with the result that they continue until later hours of the evening. Thus, a show which might normally end at 10:10 p.m. won't finish until 10:40 p.m.
- There appears to be an increase in alcohol consumption in the Park with consumption more open. In her opinion, there is a reduced enforcement of the "no alcohol" policy.

- Traffic issues continue to worsen, particularly at the intersection of Court Street and Marcy Street.
- Related to traffic problems is the fact that many attendees in the Park stop their vehicle in the roadway at the entrance of the Park to unload chairs, passengers, etc., thereby interrupting the flow of traffic.
- There was an increased amount of motor vehicle parking on the lawn areas of the Park, often at or near areas where there is pedestrian traffic.

Ms. Margeson believes that a number of these adverse effects could be addressed by PPAF by simple methods such as starting performances on schedule, turning down the volume of amplified sound, and retaining police officers during performances to regulate traffic and enforce alcohol rules. Ms. Margeson suggested, however, that, in her opinion, these adverse effects are the result of a longer term problem associated with the growth of PPAF, resulting in greater numbers of people being drawn to the Park.

David Hines and Peter Robbins of H.M. Payson next addressed the Trustees and provided an overview of the performance of the Trustees of the Trust Funds portfolio managed by that firm. They distributed and led an extensive discussion of that performance in relation to the balanced index created for the Trustees and in relation to other benchmark indices. Following that discussion, Messrs. Hines and Robbins recommended that the Trustees perform a minor rebalancing of the portfolio by moving certain cash equivalents into a short-term investment-grade bond fund. After further discussion, the Trustees unanimously voted to follow the recommendations of H.M. Payson and requested that Messrs. Hines and Robbins fulfill the recommendations.

Mr. Warhurst presented his Park Report. He advised the Trustees that a licensee for the 10<sup>th</sup> and final seasonal boating slip has been secured. Mr. Warhurst has also been informed that the conversion of the lighting in the Park to energy efficient lighting is now scheduled to start in approximately two weeks.

Mr. Warhurst reported on the receipt of two requests for use of the public forum area in the Park, both on August 10<sup>th</sup>. The first request was from Governor Hassan's re-election campaign seeking to hold an ice cream social between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on that day. That request was unanimously approved by the Trustees subject to the campaign complying with all the public forum use rules. The second request came from Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run requesting permission to hold a rally in connection with the international torch relay conducted by that group which will be passing through Portsmouth on August 10<sup>th</sup>. That request was unanimously approved by the Trustees subject to the limitation that the rally cannot take place between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and that the organizers otherwise comply with all rules governing the use of the public forum area. Among those restrictions is that the organizers may not use amplified sound during the performance of the "Shakespeare in the Park" performance scheduled for that afternoon.

The chair reported that the next meeting will take place on August 19, 2014.

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There being no further business, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

Thomas R. Watson, Secretary