

**MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE
TREES AND PUBLIC GREENERY
7:30 AM – Wednesday April 9, 2008
City Hall, City Manager's Conference Room**

Call to Order:

Peter Loughlin, Chair	A.J. Dupre, Community Forester
Steve Parkinson, Public Works Director	Richard Adams, Member
Everett Kern, General Foreman	June Rogers, Member

Also present was Dave Desfosses, Engineering Tech.

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

- 1. Acceptance of the Minutes** – Minutes of the March 12, 2008 meeting were accepted as presented.
- 2. Maplewood/Woodbury Avenue Roundabout** – Presentation by David Desfosses – The chair introduced Dave Desfosses who is present for advice for trees that are appropriate, that will last and not over power the intersection, thinking perhaps trees in the 15-25 foot range that will not become so massive to cause traffic problems. Dave presented the committee with a Layout Plan for Woodbury Avenue Traffic Calming project. The City is planning to put a roundabout at the intersection of Maplewood and Woodbury Avenue, breaking up the street and site lines of the street and to some degree break up the ability for tractor trailer movements to go through there readily. The city is planning to provide six (6) trees the exact position to be addressed in the field. This project is proposed to be constructed this summer with trees probably being planted in October, November. The existing birch tree in the existing traffic island will remain and there should be no tree removals.

The Chair stated that the Committee will look at this and report back at the next meeting.

Dave Desfosses asked that a decision be made by the next meeting of the appropriate trees as it will be going out to bid next month.

The Chair asked that the minutes reflect the great job that Dave Desfosses did on the Congress St. project.

- 3. Tree Removal Requests:**
 - 20 Sims Ave. – had quite a bit of rot, there is a lot of metal with a chain remaining in the tree
 - 882 Middle Road - Everett Kern reported the tree is dead
 - 126 South Street (corner of New Castle Avenue) – all stems have cavities in them
 - 921 Middle Street – Everett Kern stated it is all rotted on the back side, no room for replanting
 - 10 Mason Avenue – The Chair stated they looked dead
 - Haven Park (two trees) – Richard Adams stated they both are totally dead
 - South Playground Park (corner of Lincoln/Junkins Ave – 4 Trees) – all four are dead
 - Langdon Park (corner of Junkins & South – 2 trees) both trees dead

Everett Kern presented the Committee with aerial views of the above locations

MOTION made by Steve Parkinson to remove all trees on the list. Seconded by Richard Adams. Motion passed.

4. **Route 33 Tree Removal Update - Presentation by Deborah Finnigan** – The Chair stated that Debbie Finnigan had more trees for removal and asked to be on the Agenda so will take place at the next meeting. Steve Parkinson asked her to get an opinion to see if it could be trimmed enough and be healthy or advisable to remove.
5. **Kane Street Planting Proposal** – A request by the homeowner for tree planting along Kane St. and Alder Way. Steve Parkinson stated this is more than just planting trees, pavement needs to be removed, drainage considered, protection of trees, curbing, etc. Steve Parkinson suggested having Public Works look at this particular street for the next Capital Improvement Project (CIP) dealing with the whole length of the street and how it intersects with Dennett St. and Alder. Steve Parkinson suggested a letter back to the resident that the Committee looked at this and feels it is more of a project than just planting trees and Public Works will look at this for the CIP. Elaine will provide the Chair with the resident's letter.
6. **Clotilde Straus Memorial Plantings** – Steve Parkinson stated that Richardson Assocs. is working with Steve's drawing and will report back next month. The Chair referred to Arbor Day which is April 25th and Steve Parkinson will see if he can get something back from Richardson Assocs. although not in time for Arbor Day.
7. **Spring Planting Sites** – Everett Kern reported the planting of approx. 33 trees at a cost of \$12,740 and the only bid response was from Stratham Circle to be planted mid to late spring as it has been so wet.

The Chair referred to downtown trees and the tree to the right of the North Church is dead and was not replaced because of the construction and should now be replaced.

Everett Kern stated that there are two trees in front of Foster's that need to be replaced which are under guarantee. Steve Parkinson suggested before planting any more trees on that side, as there has been issues with not being able to grow trees there, to look into this to see why.

AJ suggested pulling out the stumps to see what is going on and to test the soil, which can be done by UNH.

Everett Kern stated the problem is with the one in close proximity of the bus stop. Everett will look at these before the next meeting and will place them on the tree replacement list.

8. Old Business:

- A. Richard Adams referred to the Linden on Lincoln Ave. with a cable supporting a telephone pole.
AJ stated there are two cables within that tree, one is being used and one goes to another pole.
Steve Parkinson will look into this.
- B. Peirce Island - Fogarty Tree – Richard Adams reported that dogs are using this tree as a substitute hydrant and killing the bottom part of the tree branches and asked if a small fence or something could be placed around the tree.
- C. Steve Parkinson suggested the open green mesh be placed there.
- D. Richard Adams reported a dead sugar maple at the corner of Lincoln and Broad St. on the north side. This will be put on the list for removal for the next meeting.

E. Everett Kern referred to trees on Penhallow St. across from the Ceres St. Bakery owned by the Bank of America and that he has gone there several times, left his card and never heard from them. The trees are in bad shape and he's concerned as they are in close proximity to the sidewalk.

The Chair will write a letter to the Bank.

F. Langdon at Islington – Everett reported there are quite a few dead birches in front of the condos, that he had been there at least 4 times in the last year and nothing has happened.

9. Next Meeting – 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Loughlin, Chair