

**MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE
TREES AND PUBLIC GREENERY
7:30 AM – Wednesday, January 14, 2009
City Hall, City Manager's Conference Room**

Call to Order:

Peter Loughlin, Chair

Richard Adams, Vice-Chair

Steve Parkinson, Public Works Director

Everett Kern, General Foreman

A.J. Dupre, Community Forester

June Rogers, Member

Carla Marvin, Member

Also present was Dan Hartrey,

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

1. **Acceptance of the Minutes** – Minutes of the December 10, 2008 were accepted as presented.

2. **Tree Removal Requests:**

- a. 93 Thaxter Road – Everett Kern stated this was rescinded and will do some trimming.
- b. 105 Saratoga Way - Everett Kern stated the tree has been posted, there was minimal damage to the property. **MOTION** made by Richard Adams recommending removal of the tree. Seconded by Steve Parkinson. Motion passed.
- c. 170 Melbourne St. - Everett Kern stated this tree lost a major limb during the recent ice storm and the tree is not a nice specimen. As we have lost a lot of trees on Melbourne, we may want to think about replacing some of the trees in that area. **MOTION** made by Carla Marvin to remove the tree. Seconded by June Rogers. Motion passed.

3. **Fire Station 2 Landscape Plan** - Dan Hartrey, City of Portsmouth Community Development Dept. presented the Committee with proposed plans of the landscape for the new fire station. Steve Parkinson explained the lot is on the corner of Ocean and Lafayette Rd. The buildings have been torn down, the site has been leveled and now in the process of soliciting bids for building the fire station. We have been through the site review process, numerous meetings on landscaping with the Planning Dept. There is currently very little vegetation on this site other than some existing scrub and some large trees on the backside property line. The plan is to heavily vegetate the back and side and around the building itself. The memorial at Station 2 will be moved and reestablished at the new station. The fire station will be a three bay, two story fire station, employee parking in the back, a complete drive around the facility with the current access onto Lafayette Rd. being moved towards the cleaners and the existing opening will be enlarged for an entry way. We have been working with an architect from Salem MA on the landscaping.

Dan Hartrey read off the species of the trees.

AJ asked who is doing the planting and suggested that all burlap bags and wire be complete removed.

Dan Hartrey stated there is not a schedule for planting as yet, but thought probably in the fall.

Steve Parkinson reported they are planning on ground breaking in March.

MOTION made by Everett Kern to approve the proposed plan. Seconded by June Rogers. Motion passed.

Dan Hartrey will send the plan electronically to the Chair who will forward to the Committee.

4. **Tree City Recertification** – The Chair referred to the letter to the State submitting the Application for Recertification together with the attachments that Nancy Carmer had prepared.

5. **105 Saratoga Way** – The Chair referred to a letter sent to Everett Kern regarding the tree that came down. The property owner is submitting a claim for damages.
6. **Old Business:**
 - A. **Tree at Library for Former City Poet Laureate, Robert Dunn** - Richard Adams referred to the memorial tree at the Library for Mr. Dunn which was tabled until the January meeting referring this to Public Works Department to find an appropriate location on Library property and come back with a species of tree. Steve Parkinson was going to follow up and speak with the person who requested the tree. There is not a lot of space there. AJ stated that an apple tree is not appropriate. Steve Parkinson suggested to continue looking at the site. Once the species is decided, it will dictate how much space is needed. Richard Adams will contact the person requesting this tree.
 - B. **305 Union Street** - Steve Parkinson referred to request to post the Linden Tree that is leaning at 60o and discuss at the January meeting.
MOTION made by Steve Parkinson to table until the February meeting for removal request. Seconded by Everett Kern. Motion passed.
 - C. Steve Parkinson informed the Committee that Dan Rawlings met with the City's GIS person and now has a map showing properties and areas where he thought plantings should be placed.
Everett Kern will forward the list to the Chair and Dick Adams of where the trees donated from Salmon Falls Nursery are planted so that the Committee can follow up on them.
 - D. **Tree Ordinance** – The Chair contacted the City Attorney and has not heard back as yet.

6. **Next Meeting – 7:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 11, 2009**

7. **Adjourned**

Respectfully submitted,

Peter J. Loughlin-Chairman