

**MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE
TREES AND PUBLIC GREENERY
7:30 AM – Wednesday, March 11, 2009
City Hall, City Manager's Conference Room**

Call to Order:

Richard Adams, Vice-Chair
John Bohenko, City Manager
Steve Parkinson, Public Works Director

Everett Kern, General Foreman
June Rogers, Member
A.J. Dupere, Community Forester

Also present were Nancy Carmer, Micum Davis and Chris Kemp.
Absent: Peter Loughlin and Carla Marvin.

Richard Adams called the meeting to order at approximately 7:40 a.m.

1. **Acceptance of the Minutes** – Minutes of the February 11, 2009 meeting were accepted as presented.
2. **No tree removal requests this month**
3. **Tree Care Offer** – Micum Davis, owner of Cornerstone Landcare, and Chris Kemp, owner of Suntime Corporation, prepared a tree inventory and proposal for Haven Park to care for the trees in Haven Park on Arbor Day, April 24th. Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA), a white bug, was found on some large Hemlocks in the park. Also noticed large deadwood throughout the treescape over walkways and benches. They have verbal commitment to this pro bono project from owner-operated arborist companies located in the Seacoast including Organic Arborist, Suntime Corp. Cornerstone, True North Tree Preservation and Landcare, and Northeast Shade Tree. Have tentative confirmations from Seacoast Tree Care and Lee Tree Co. The focus would be removing dead wood from trees over high traffic areas including walkways and benches. Sun Tree would like to contribute time and possibly materials for treating the HWA in the park. Each company agreeing to contribute needs to present Certificates of Liability and Workman's compensation insurance to the City.. Also an agreement that the City is held harmless by any potential accident. Micum presented the members with copies of their Tree Inventory and Proposal for Haven Park. Chris explained the inventory is being given to the Committee to use as a tool for assessing the health of the park, seeing what the future needs are as identified by certified Arborists . They are looking to the Committee to see what they need to do to make this happen..

Steve Parkinson felt it was a great offer and suggested the way to proceed is to have this Committee endorse the proposal and refer to Public Works and the City Manager for implementation. The City Manager in turn will have the Legal Dept. prepare the necessary documents and let them know what we'll need as far as insurance. The City Manager will direct this Committee and Public Works Dept. to work with them.

Chris Kemp stated some potential issues they see are safety in the park during the day, they would like to have two police details to maintain boundaries around the park that they can put up, also temporary fencing, do not cross ribbon. Pleasant St. is the busiest and may need to set up some bucket trucks on Pleasant St. to trim the dead wood from the large oak trees. Livermore is non high traffic, Edwards is more than Livermore but less than Pleasant. They will notify residents as their trucks will be parked there.

Chris Kemp indicated he would like to do a horticulture oil treatment and target early morning hours when no one is around or wind., far enough from the mill pond. Suntime is pushing for

organic approach to pest control and using a non petroleum based horticultural oil which is effective with less impact on the environment.

MOTION made by Steve Parkinson to approve request and refer the applicant to the City Manager or implementation of the program and approved by City Council. Seconded by June Rogers. Motion passed.

4. **Tree at Library for former City Poet Laureate, Robert Dunn** – Richard Adams reported that he spoke with the people at Athenaeum who were close to Robert Dunn, and they felt that the flowering crab apple (a spring snow crab apple) that does not bear fruit would be acceptable. Steve Parkinson felt at this time it's important to select a type of tree and then find an appropriate space for that tree. Have Everett Kern review the area and come back in the spring with a selection site. Richard Adams suggested that he, June Rogers and AJ pick a tree species and AJ to see what is available in the marketplace.
5. **Presentation by Nancy Carmer regarding Islington St. and Market St. Improvements** – Nancy Carmer presented a power point presentation on the two projects, both are long term planning with a significant amount of planting associated with them and felt it valuable that the Committee work with the City and understand what is proposed. Nancy Carmer went through and explained the highlights of the Islington Corridor integrated action plan project, the goals, challenges, site boundaries, initial community input alternatives, review and refinement, zoning and planning issues. Traffic counts and analysis were done showing that traffic is consistent all day long not just rush hour traffic. It is subject to change as it is a very long range project. Will be working with this Committee with private land owners for planting opportunities. The corridor was divided into east, central and west. In the short term here will be sewer project done this summer. The integrated plan is to improve corridor image, managing traffic and safety, providing pedestrian amenities, looking at functional, aesthetic streetscape improvements for public and private gateway efforts and integrated creative district elements. Happening in the near term there is the Spinney Road project, Intersection project, Bartlett St. sewer project and sidewalks on Maplewood.
The Market St. Gateway Improvement Project – This strives to improve I-95 Exit 7 Gateway to the City. The project boundaries are from I-95 all the way into Deer St. where street narrows getting into Market St. The corridor was divided into east, central and west starting at Deer St. going to the end of Noble's Island. Addressing the intersection at the corner of Deer and Market St. will be started immediately to create some bump outs for people crossing. Would like to plant a lot of trees in this corridor, improvement of sidewalks.
Nancy Carmer explained doing this in five phases, the first from Deer St. to Russell St.; Russell St. to Rte.1 Bypass, Rte.1 Bypass to I-95 and the park looking out over the cove is the fifth. A 2009 pricing is roughly \$500,000-\$600,000 per phase. A total of \$3 mil for the five phases. Currently have \$300,000 for sidewalks between the Port and Michael Succi Dr., the bike lane and put in for additional funds through the Federal Stimulus.
6. **New Business:**
Little Harbour School – AJ stated that they want to do a tree planting this spring and asked if this Committee could work with the School. They are having an earth science day on the 24th which is Arbor Day. Would like to do something away from the building in the back near the playground. Everett Kern will give AJ a name and telephone to contact. AJ would like to get a formal action, will contact Ken at the school and bring it back at the April meeting to see if we can look at funding this.
7. **Next Meeting – 7:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 8, 2009**
8. **Adjourned at 8:50 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Adams, Vice-Chairman