

SOUTH PORTLAND PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES 3/4/19 (4:30-6 PM) – COMMUNITY CENTER

ATTENDEES

Residents / Taxpayers	MBPC-Licensed Professionals	Agronomist
Cathy Chapman Bret LeBleu Ann Morrill (Chair)	Justin Nichols	Jesse O'Brien
City Staff	Guests	
Fred Dillon (notes)		

1. Review, revise and/or approve 2/11/19 meeting notes (ATTACHMENT)
 - Justin wasn't here...change accordingly

2. Possible revisions to Pesticide Ordinance
 - Based on feedback from 1/29/19 Applicator's Roundtable: summarized for Manager at meeting on 2/14/19 (attended by Julie, Jesse, Ann and Fred)
 - Key concerns / suggestions include:
 - Top 3 things to address: grubs, high use fields and enforcement provisions
 - Put together subcommittee on grubs
 - High use fields
 - SMCC waiver request: used cultural practices prior to request and felt like they weren't given enough flexibility for feasible measures; with grubs as safety concern they might decide to use artificial turf
 - Site has poor soil suitability (shallow) for use as athletic field
 - Consider more flexibility in ordinance for high use fields
 - Wainwright is unique in that it's got ideal soils
 - Consider alternative products, such as "Grub Gone", milky spore, nematodes, acelepryne (potential issues with amphibians) – need more careful research
 - Need to consider public health impacts and how will these chemicals will affect kids
 - Plastic fields can have significant health impacts as well
 - May need to improve waiver application process
 - May need clarification on PMAC's role in offering guidance to Council about whether to allow more flexibility
 - Importance of site visits: can't really do it solely with waiver forms
 - There's currently no waiver provision in ordinance that considers economic impacts but perhaps it should be relevant (i.e., consider allowing 1 synthetic application to save an athletic field)
 - Low risk products are only going to work during a certain time in grub life cycle

- If the field gets really bad the only product that will work is dylox, which has all sorts of warnings
 - There's some research suggesting that deep core aeration can actually puncture insects
 - Chip Osborne has apparently demonstrated that athletic fields can be managed solely using organic methods...it just takes a few years
 - Tank farm rep mentioned they used Roundup just before the ordinance went into effect – suggestion that we consider sending reminder notices (FD will do)
 - Maine Natural Areas Program Nancy Olmstead was at Applicator's Roundtable and discussed how they recommend synthetics to control some invasive plants in certain situations
- Julie will convene meeting to more closely consider specific revisions / changes to ordinance; will likely come back with proposed revisions for consideration by PMAC
3. Licensed Applicator Reports (due by 2/1 for each preceding calendar year)
- a. Must include same info as required by MBPC: target site; pesticide brand name; EPA registration number; total undiluted formulation (in pounds or gallons); total area treated.
 - Need legal clarification on what's included beyond turf and landscape (FD will do)
 - b. Applicators have not submitted this info to City so PMAC will need to send reminder letter to all licensed applicators in region (FD will do)
4. Report of PMAC's 2017 & 2018 activities (due in March)
- a. What to include:
 - Meeting summaries (particularly for waiver & exemption considerations)
 - Participation / involvement in public events (can also be pulled from meeting summaries)
 - Direct to consumer info tabling at B'way Gardens, HD, Shopper's Hardware, Drillens
 - Applicator's meeting
 - Maine Flower Show
 - South Portland open house at SPHS with Chip
 - Stonyfield Farms
 - Website, brochures, calendar
 - City purchase of equipment for Wainwright
 - Library / Community Center displays
 - FD will meet with Ann on Thurs 3/7
5. Ordinance Evaluation by 5/1/19
- a. Will likely include recommendations for revisions in response to 1/29/19 Roundtable and subsequent deliberations by PMAC and staff.

- b. Should include any available pilot project results (e.g., Yerxa Park, Bug Light, etc.)
 - Better to include this info with ordinance evaluation report
 - c. Should include metrics to measure progress (still TBD but could include participation in public events, retailer outreach, website visits, etc.)
 - Change in practices
 - New equipment
 - Retail sales – check with local retailers (e.g., Broadway Gardens is selling more organics)
 - Website visits (check with City Clerk, Emily Carrington)
 - Outreach efforts – count them all (similar to annual MS4 report)
 - Wainwright field improvements
 - Any way to measure scofflaws?
 - Importance of including recommendations to Council / PB to consider soil quality for redevelopment / new development projects – or protecting against soil stripping
6. Goat Ordinance Status
- a. 2/19/19 Council workshop recap and next steps
 - Revisions based on Council feedback (14 day notification and closer consideration of stocking rate)
 - Corporation Counsel drafts actual ordinance language for reconsideration by Council
 - Planning Board review
7. Yerxa Park Planning Board Application Status
- a. Upcoming Planning Board meeting on 3/14/19
8. Fertilizer Ordinance Update
- a. 2/22/19 PSP meeting overview
 - Cathy Ramsdell (Friends of Casco Bay Director), Julie and Fred met with PSP reps to discuss their concerns about fertilizers and plans to ask Council to consider fertilizer ordinance
 - b. Next steps:
 - 4/9 Council workshop with possible presentations by Friends of Casco Bay, Casco Bay Estuary Partnership and Stormwater Program Coordinator (Fred)
 - MOFGA may also be presenting
 - Reached out to Jay Feldman at Beyond Pesticides
 - Also consider involving Dept. of Ag, Coop. Ext. and someone from academia
9. Maine Flower Show Panel Discussion
- Portland Sustainability Director Troy Moon & South Portland Stormwater Program Coordinator Fred Dillon will provide brief overview of ordinances for both communities.

- Mary Cerullo with Friends of Casco Bay and Ali Clift with Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District will discuss the why and how of land care practices that don't rely on (or at least reduce need for) synthetic pesticides.
- PMAC's Justin Nichols will discuss strategies for complying with ordinance for ornamentals and perennials.

10. Other Discussion Items

- Consider meeting at City's water pollution control facility on Waterman Drive: PMAC prefers Community Center
- Cathy Chapman is presenting to Oswewantha Garden Club next week
- Consider whether to move meeting time to 5-:630PM: stay with 4:30 in April and then back to 5 PM in May
- Thanks to Ann for showing up at MELNA! Good presentations including Troy from Portland.

NEXT MEETING ON MONDAY APRIL 1, 2019 4:30-6pm