SOUTH PORTLAND PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING NOTES  
12/7/20 (5-6:30 PM) – ZOOM MEETING

ATTENDEES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Residents / Taxpayers</th>
<th>MBPC-Licensed Professionals</th>
<th>Agronomist</th>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Capelluti</td>
<td>Todd Robbins</td>
<td>Jesse O’Brien (Chair)</td>
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<td>Alex Redfield</td>
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<td>City Staff</td>
<td>Guests</td>
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<td>Fred Dillon (notes)</td>
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1. PMAC officially becomes LMAC today!
   - Council approved proposed changes to Ch. 32 on 11/17/20 and the new Landcare Management Ordinance will take effect on 12/7/20 (tonight)
   - Press release to go out early next week (ATTACHMENT)
   - Council formally appointed Alex Redfield to replace Linden Thigpen
   - Still need to fill Justin Nichols vacancy by advertising in City newsletter and posting on City website; suggestions for replacement also welcome
     - Must be NOFA-certified or licensed applicator? (Yes for NOFA and yes for MBPC licensed applicator)
     - “Two MBPC-licensed landscape professionals, at least one of whom has experience in organic land care management and is accredited by the NOFA”
     - Maybe Sweet Pea Landscaping Jason Batchelor (Jesse will follow up)

2. Review/amend/approve 11/2/20 PMAC meeting notes (ATTACHMENT)
   - Accepted unanimously

3. Planning for ordinance implementation – tentative timeline
   - Jesse’s refresher on the N cycle (ATTACHMENT)
     - Refer to Jesse’s slide – all about the availability of N and conditions for optimal plant uptake
     - Implications for what might be submitted for waivers – esp. for performance turf and new establishment
       - Will depend on having good growing conditions and perceptions of prospective applicants that organic fertilizers won’t work
       - 1st step in every waiver app must be a soil test – no waivers can be granted without it
- Soil test is a picture in time so need to pay attention to how recently it was taken
  - Address soil compaction / breaking up the soil
    - Spike vs core vs deep tine aeration vs hydraulic
    - Calcium is key too
    - Getting the right soil is key too: performance turf should be sandier
- Soil quality requirement for new development / redevelopment
  - If it’s an older soil test then probably not valid
  - Ordinance requires sample collection for same year – must be comprehensive test
  - Question about timing of soil test results – if they don’t come in a timely fashion can contractors provide at beginning of season? (Most already do this?)
  - Question about confirming that fertilizer has been incorporated to a depth of 2-3”
  - Important distinction between getting growth in bare spots of established turf – soil test required for fertilizers in these areas?
- Fertilizer ordinance outreach plan & BMPs (ATTACHMENTS)
  - Ref to Julie’s E&O Table
    - Phase II: outreach to MELNA, dirt workers (DEP list), building contractors (Maine Association of General Contractors)
    - I get fact sheet together for developers/owners/contractors ASAP and run it by LMAC (describing how soil quality requirements must be met)
- Continue thinking about updates to GHSP website
  - Ref to Gary Fish’s concerns with not considering compost as fertilizer – huge loophole – although lots of bagged composts do provide info on nutrient content
  - Use existing resources / references to greatest extent possible
  - Work with surrounding communities to greatest extent possible – do sooner rather than later

4. Other Updates
- Todd on recent PPH winter moth story in Cape Elizabeth
  - Cape tree warden – handles all budgets for trees in town spaces
  - Residential visits for risk assessments and ownership
  - Reports directly to public works director (Jay Reynolds)
  - Needs to be firm with residents: protect the people from the trees and the trees from the people
  - Certified in assessing tree risks
  - Part-time job – does it on his own time
  - Question about whether new tree ordinance will be responsibility of LMAC – not sure but FD will check with JR (seems like pesticides, fertilizers and trees might be too much for 1 volunteer committee)
  - Winter moth status: Cape was primary hotspot in 2011 affecting oak, maples, elm and fruit trees
- Canopies have taken quite a hit
- Forces trees to push out second growth in same season
- If it happens in multiple years trees can die (esp. oaks and maples)
- Encourage residents to seek non-pesticide forms of IPM (banding in fall and oils in spring)
- MFS release parasitoid flies (2014 & 2016) – may also have done this in Hinckley Park?
- Band trees around TDay to catch wingless females
- Not eradicating moths but suppressing to acceptable threshold
- Over past couple years they’ve noticed that the populations have spread to SoPo and Scarborough but have diminished in Cape so trees aren’t completely defoliated
- Todd worked with CELT to observe effects of controls – no interventions this year so they’ll see how it goes next year and apply bands & oil if necessary

- Fred on Yerxa Park knotweed management demonstration project (ATTACHMENTS)
  - Submitted info to French researchers on pilot project
- Fred on Town of Falmouth’s efforts to collect pesticide and fertilizer samples
  - Fred will report back on outcome
- Jesse on working with neighboring communities to develop consistent messaging
  - See E&O above

5. Other agenda items / discussion topics?
- Pesticide waiver process considerations
  - Concerns contractors are going to find process too cumbersome and just skip the requirements
- Let folks know about LMAC opportunity for Justin’s vacated position
- Q about whether there needs to be a deeper aerator for performance turf
- Q about the animal grazing ordinance including sheep (it does)

6. Adjourn

NEXT REMOTE MEETING: 1/4/21 from 5-6:30 PM