

# SOUTH PORTLAND PESTICIDES MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

5/1/17 (5-7 PM) – CITY HALL BASEMENT

## ATTENDEES

| Residents / Taxpayers                               | MBPC-Licensed Professionals | Agronomist    |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Cathy Chapman<br>Bret LeBleu<br>Ann Morrill (Chair) |                             | Jesse O'Brien |
| City Staff  | Guests                      |               |
| Fred Dillon (took notes)                            | None                        |               |

1. Review (and if needed edit) 4/10/17 Meeting Notes
2. Brainstorm ideas for PMAC outreach activities prior to completion of CCSWCD's Education & Outreach plan
  - Web site updates / improvements
    - Include Yardscaping graphic on entry page as a sidebar (CCSWCD YardScaping)
    - Maybe not state it as "pesticides" but "healthy lawn" instead.
    - Look at developing baseline at some point – maybe Wainwright. We need to come up with some metrics for athletic fields – there are protocols that could be used (ref. to FB Environmental).
  - City e-newsletter articles: staff will put something together; consider articles for MASLA, ELA, MELNA and SMLA.
  - Consider rental housing and how to do outreach to them – landlord / property owner outreach
  - Broadway Garden – have field day for PMAC; probably not until late August / early Sept.
  - SPCTV slide with info from tri-fold
  - Use photos of Chip Osborne's visit to Wainwright.
3. Discuss strategy for filling vacant PMAC position – ideally with NOFA-certified professional but others if/as needed.
  - Dave Melevsky can no longer participate. Andrew Johnson is NOFA certified can't do it because he's too busy. Justin Nichols is another possibility.
  - Refer to NOFA's website for who's certified in ME.
4. Develop list of potential agenda topics for 6/5/17 meeting
  - Continue search for NOFA person
  - Update E&O Plan

- Update on status of LD 1505
- Develop list of events PMAC will be attending
- Allowable products list – how will it be presented
- Update on status of part time position for Sustainability
- Consider SPHS field for performance evaluation
- Consider Mill Creek Park as case study (assuming there's no fertilizer and pesticide applications) – although it's kind of apples and oranges since the loam's in pretty good shape there.
- More / better publicizing of what City is already doing for more benign practices (e.g., in Mill Creek Park and other places that don't use lots of synthetics).

5. Other agenda items?

- Preemption Bill – LD 1505
  - More spoke in favor than against it at recent legislative hearing. Portland Protectors and MOFGA were there; MMA spoke against it. Absence of MBPC was a concern for those against. Lots of Home Rule issues. Unclear what will happen when it goes to work session next week. Still accepting written testimony. Horticultural Council of Maine testified neither for nor against.
  - OK for PMAC to submit written testimony? Staff will look into whether PMAC needs approval to submit as standing City committee.
  - Discussion about state vs. local level regs; local control should be retained to be consistent with community values.
  - Industry can adapt as needed; every community is unique. MBPC has been getting strong feedback about importance of homeowner ed. New MBPC Director has strong emphasis on E&O; MBPC has been operated as independent agency through Dept. of Ag.

- Wainwright Complex: Chip Osborne met recently with P&R staff
  - SPLT Plant Sale – Sat, 5/20/17: 8am-1pm at the American Legion on Broadway: get display put together and get more soil test kits.
  - Get Mrs. Fish to do some work in the schools?
6. Confirm next meeting date & adjourn: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 6/12 at Rec Center