

## SOUTH PORTLAND PESTICIDES MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

9/11/17 (5-6:30 PM) – COMMUNITY CENTER

### ATTENDEES

Residents / Taxpayers	MBPC-Licensed Professionals	Agronomist
Cathy Chapman Ann Morrill (Chair)	Mike Hughes Justin Nichols	Jesse O'Brien
City Staff	Guests	
Fred Dillon (took notes)	None	

1. Reviewed 8/7/17 Meeting Notes with edit noted at top of document needed to reflect correct date.
2. Consideration of November – Jan PMAC Meeting Time
  - After considerable discussion, the group decided to continue meeting at 5PM (or perhaps even 4:30) on first Mon of each month with Cathy calling in to participate remotely.
3. Reviewed Parks Department Article (drafted by Julie's intern)
  - Good start overall but some editing / wordsmithing needed.
  - Ann and Cathy will meet with Julie to provide detailed edits.
  - Consider having Protect South Portland send out.
  - Publish in City's electronic newsletter.
4. Discuss Preparations for 11/16/17 Retailers Meeting
  - Review list (provided as hand-out)
    - Add Highland Ave Gardens and Tractor Supply (both in Scarborough)
    - Maybe add Flaherty's Family Farm (Scarborough)
    - Maybe remove Coast of Maine Organic Products
    - Add establishments from Saco and New Gloucester?
  - How do we want retailers to help?
    - Provide them with tools to help South Portland customers understand ordinance requirements (still in process of developing what these will be in consultation with Beyond Pesticides)
    - Help SoPo customers understand that expectations about what makes a "good" lawn may need to change.

- Also help inform SoPo customers that transitioning from synthetic to organic takes time and that lawns may seem to get worse before they get better (i.e., building healthy soil ecosystems takes time).
- Emphasis on soil quality – both for subsoil and topsoil (maybe consider incorporating minimum requirements into ordinance for new development and redevelopment projects).
- Maybe consider recommending certain types of grass seed.

5. PMAC Display and Upcoming Events

- Check with Julie on getting table top display screen.
- Distribute educational materials (flyers, posters, etc.) throughout community.
  - Develop flyer for cultural practices (maybe something similar to or based on [Maine YardScaping](#) or [CCSWCD](#), which has also developed a series of fact sheets)
- Art in the Park event on 8/12/17 was very well attended and well received; Ann and Cathy spoke to more than 90 individuals.
  - Ensuing discussion about PMAC’s role at public events and whether South Portland’s approach to regulating pesticides is being actively promoted for other communities to adopt. Some concern about PMAC assuming an advocacy role on behalf of City. Neither Ann nor Cathy believes this has been the case. All agreed that further discussion needed to clarify PMAC’s role at public events.
    - Develop talking points to ensure consistent message.
    - OK to talk about what’s in ordinance but can’t recommend products or services.
- Homeowner’s Workshop on 8/31/17 was also well attended and well received.
- Need to develop Event Summary Form for future use to track number of contacts (example below):

Date	Venue	Number of Contacts	Notes

6. Next meeting Monday 10/3/17 from 5-6:30 at location TBD

7. Adjourn