

CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE
Standing Pesticide Management Advisory Committee

Draft Minutes January 4, 2022

Members Present: Troy Moon, Karen Snyder, Priscilla Skerry, Avery Yale Kamila, Carol Laboissonniere, and Jesse O'Brien

Meeting called to order.

November 2nd Minutes

Remove the word draft at the top. Add the date and time.

Avery motions to approve the November minutes. Minutes approved unanimously.

Review Letter to Applicators

We will be adding language about signage and include a model sign. Will recommend applicators use a larger sign. Avery would like to emphasize putting the product on the sign.

In the list of what is reported on the letter, include "target pest". Karen wants to note that we need to include the link before sending it. Carol notes it may be difficult to change the size of the sign because they order from certain companies. Including wording that if these signs are completed correctly, the City will not need to call them.

Objectives for the Year

Karen put together a wishlist of objectives for the year for the committee.

1. Annual education events for applicators

Jesse recommends being in contact with applicators in Portland. Would recommend this be a zoom and not a regular meeting around the end of February/beginning of March. A small formal program to start over zoom and request feedback. Troy recommends picking a date for every year. Goal would be to go over lessons learned, signage requirements, ordinance education refresher. Avery would be interested to know of OMRI approved products and their results. Applicators can share results with each other. Jesse and Troy will put together some kind of agenda for the 1 hour event. Troy recommends asking Jeff to come and talk about the Brown Tail Moth or invite Jean to talk. It would be best if we can note this event in the letter being sent out this week.

2. Events for the public

Having an annual event on earth day (April 22nd) would be possible. It will also be the one year anniversary of the compost program. This could be a combined event to talk about gardening, wild seeds project, composting drop offs, pollinators, managing lawns organically.

100 Resilient Yards project started by a member of the South Portland office. Goal is to reach 100 yards in Portland and South Portland to provide a complete educational

program and resources for homeowners. We are in the very early stages of this project but Erin will keep Karen informed on the progress of this project.

3. *Educational platforms for PMAC board members*

Should the PMAC meet with other city and town pesticide committees for a roundtable to review lessons learned with lawn care methods. Jeff could speak on the brown tail moths, Jean could speak to his experience. Avery would be interested to hear from Blue Hill because of their ordinance banning the sale. It could be marketed as "Portland Success Stories". This can be revisited next month.

4. *Committee Annual Report*

This is to be completed by the end of March and presented to the S&T Committee in April. Including the "target pest" in the report should make putting the report together easier. Need to remind Parks and Rec to file a report for Hadlock? Field. It is unclear if they use a third party applicator that may have also submitted a report. The report may be an opportunity to mention the success stories from the year. There is no set list of applicators that practice in Portland. Does it make sense to recommend an applicator license for Portland so we know who should be reporting. There is currently no way to know how many applicators should be reporting to the City. Jesse questions how this would be enforced.

5. *Communication Efforts*

Jesse notes that we have discussed having a social media presence in addition to the website and using it for outreach and education. Jesse will send the brown tail moth content as an example. The City office has instagram, facebook, and twitter pages where posts can be shared.

Karen recommends updating the website specifically with the 2020 applicator reports. Karen can send us content on how to identify safe pesticides?? and EPA number to be added to the website.

The next meeting will be January 31st at 6pm.

Meeting Adjourned.