

CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE
Pesticide Management Advisory Committee

Draft Minutes September 12, 2019

Members Present: Avery Kamilla, Karen Snyder, Jesse O'Brien, Tim Lindsey, Priscilla Skerry, Carol Laboissonniere

Staff Present: Troy Moon, Ashley Krulik

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by Jesse O'Brien.

Welcome and introductions - expanded meeting with South Portland PMAC and other landscape professionals with State of Maine Invasive Plant Biologist Nancy Olmstead

Nancy Olmstead presented on Invasive Plant Ecology and Management

Review and approve minutes from August 6, 2019

- Avery moved to accept, Tim seconded, all in favor 7-0.

Reports and Updates

- SeeClickFix
 - Created Pesticide category - no issues submitted yet
 - Tim - who enforces ordinance? Troy is in charge of enforcement - start with educational materials.
- Jesse asked how we can track inquiries about specific plants
- Carol brought Green Earth Ag & Turf - potential new resource
- Avery asked about Cushing Island exemption
 - Surveyed mayoral candidates and all were in support of removing the invasive pest exemption
- Avery suggested that Lena Geraghty get NOFA certified if she will continue to be the decision maker in City Manager's office
- Karen asked if NOFA will give us a discount on certification - Troy to inquire
- Karen and Avery have been working on pest control matrix - still in draft mode, will share with committee for input
 - Add notes to use caution with horticultural vinegar and throw pulled-up invasive plants in the trash - not the woods or the compost
- Avery shared *Invasive Plant Medicine* as a resource
- Avery asked about future speakers - ask speakers to not talk about using synthetic pesticides and focus on organic pest management
 - Troy - important to have speakers who bring different points of view to learn from
 - Tim - ask for speakers to bring new OPM products that work

Outreach and Education

- Maine Pesticides Collection Program - happening in October in Portland
- Portland hazardous waste program - will take pesticides the first Saturday of every month (April through November, 7:30am-1pm)
 - Add information to website
- Organic approved compost - WeCompost and Garbage to Garden are MOFGA certified and available at Riverside
 - Add information to website
- Jesse brought up that fall is the key season for turf
 - Recently presented at Skillins - most common question from applicators is what is the best stuff to get and how much does it cost? Needs to fit within their fee structure.
 - Need to have more presence on turf care in September 2020 - committee members would need to assist
- Jesse - we should launch a question and answer platform for residents
- Outreach - Avery - once matrix is ready she and Karen will take materials to stores to have conversations with staff - most likely this winter
- Portland Sustainability Office to advertise NOFA class - send to MELNA list
- Continue to educate residents and professionals

Future Meetings/Speakers

- Moving forward, work with the speakers on the specific topics that committee is interested in learning more about
- No October speaker
- Email Jesse any speaker recommendations
- Continue to invite other PMACs to share information

Next Meeting: October 1

Adjourn 8:37