

IPM Committee Meeting

Minutes 10/1/2020 - Amended

In Attendance: Kelly Brown, Rob McClary, Derek Mannion, Margert Doris, Dana Hanson, Kyle Simpson, Nicole Banks, Justin Traxler.

- Review and approve minutes from 8/13/2020 (amended), 8/20/20 (amended), 9/3/2020 and 9/17/2020 meeting minutes. All reviewed and motion made to accept as revised and seconded. DM will post to the website.
- Review final amended language for IPM emergency waivers procedures (attachment)
JT suggested that VI emergencies item B wording needs to be revised. Discussion ensued regarding the intent here and that only one dept head is needed to approve in an emergency, but the language here is not as clear as it could be. DM will amend this waiver to take out the word "only". DH suggested that we date this so to note revisions. DM will put Updated Oct. 2020 in the footer.
- Discuss next steps for IPM
DM and RM have inspected/walked all of the site and taken pictures. They are in the process of prioritizing them for follow up based on findings. Photos and weed counts taken. A 3-4 year time line is estimated. JT offered to assist here with Tom Irwin so to be able to get inspections and Turf Management. Timeline developed and mapped out as well. JT informed that Newton Girls Soccer and Tom Irwin have decided to focus efforts that this time on Weeks. Usage patterns differ widely from site to site. Each site has their own issues. For example, Weeks due to trees and lay out cannot move fields much to allow time to rest. Highlands has a permanent football/soccer multi use goal so the goal area is getting very worn regardless of the season or sport being played.
- Discuss IPM monitoring sheet/ timeline to treat all sites
DM informed of his plan and what he and RM. Have done thus far. JT offered to assist so to speed up the timeline as he is not comfortable with being satisfied with a 5 year plan. There are some fields that are so far gone that spraying is not reasonable they need turf management or repair.
- Discuss revisions to abutter letter to determine all yearly site treatment options (attachment)
JT recommended that we define who is an "abutter" so it is clearer as to who will get letter and why. As he recalls at the zoom meeting in June some asked why they did not get a letter and how is it determined as to who gets a letter. DM informed at the time it was within 300 yards of the field. Information is pulled from the Assessor's Office and letters sent to the property owner. It was suggested that we add a line to ask property owners to post and/or distribute to tenants so that renters are placed on notice as well. Discussion Paragraph 5 re follow up spot spraying and if needed wording. DM informed that if spot spraying or broad cast treatment is needed it should be done within 10-14 days from the initial application.
- Discuss formal request to expand IPM to other fields
NB suggested that we need to communicate the results of the pilot and from it develop a detailed report. This information will help to determine what next steps should be. Which fields, and when. The budget will dictate what can be done when. We need to gather all the information into a report and attach it to a formal request to scale the pilot to other fields. We can then send a notice to all abutters, and/or the whole city regarding the plan for Spring 2021. An annual field program to include which fields, what improvements were seen from the pilot, what is the most cost-effective way to maintain the fields is needed. MD feels that the City should propose to expand and scale not the IPM Committee. The City should make a proposal and send it to this IPM committee for review. Discussion among the members occurred.

DM informed that he would create a list and prioritize the fields by need based on the inspections that he and RM just completed, and results of the pilot and he will review it with Commissioner Banks.

MD asked for an annual review of any pesticides as the science can change. DM said that he will review And provided the MSDS sheets on all pesticides annually.

The Abutter letter will be updated and sent out prior to the next meeting. Derek asked all to review and Provide feedback via email so that at our next meeting on 10/15 it can be finalize and subject to approval by Committee at that time.

- Field Acre Assessment -status/ check in
JT is working on this. Maps of each park and noting how much of each it playable field as a percent of the total park.
- Update re the emergency pesticide application at Forte Park on 9/29/2020
The emergency waiver was obtained, the area was corded off, notification signs were posted and FW Pest Control sprayed using Tempo 1%. (which has been used before and MSDS Sheets are on file).

NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 15, 2020 AT 11:00- conference call.

Respectfully submitted by, Kelly Brown