

## IPM Committee Meeting Minutes January 7, 2021

In Attendance: Derek Mannion, Kelly Brown, Rob McClary, Kyle Simpson, Margaret Doris, Nicole Banks, Jonathan Yeo, JT Justin Traxler

- Review 12/3/2020 and 12/22/2020 IPM meeting minutes

12/3/20 minutes - no changes - motion to approve accept Kelly seconded by Margaret  
12/22/20 Minutes - motion to accept by Margaret seconded by JT

- Review next steps for IPM - Maintenance

- IPM checklist

- It is a work in progress document. Looks good.
- Zoom meetings are open to the public is implied but should be noted.

- City IPM webpage

- IT has populated the web page. Derek has chronologically loaded minutes and agendas. New tab added "What's New in IPM". Anything new will be posted here.
- Abutter letters and maps will remain in the same area.
- Please take a look at the new website and let Derek know if anything is missing.

- Abutter letters

- New abutter letters have been sent. JT feels it was well written and letter but felt it was too long so many will not read the whole thing. Can it have bullet points in the beginning?
- MD - There should be a state filed plan for each site. On the MA state IPM site there is one listed for Cabot. It has someone from the school's taking responsibility. The state says we do not use pesticides on this site. Who updates this and is this current and accurate information?
- DM - replied that annually the Maintenance Division looks at the MA state IPM site. It is something that will be modified and updated soon. It is done annually in January or February.
- DM - revision Paragraph 4 - change from department to the parks recreation cultural department. He will keep us posted of any additional changes.
- NB - second to last P of letter. Discussion of follow up treatment, spot treatment that may need more attention. City may apply a second broadcast treatment, if needed. Would there ever be a need for more than a second application. What is there was a third needed?
- DM - replied that he and RM have never needed to do 3 applications for one particular weed in one particular season. This is OK to say second spot application, if needed.

- Field acreage assessment year one

- JT - looks good. NNHS link photos are hard to see what photo is being highlighted here. Perhaps too many photos? It was not clear as to what is being shown or highlighted as there are so many photos.
- DM - NNHS there is a greater level of detail needed at this site. As there are a number of grassy surfaces. Total site acreage and then total grass acreage. Then the total treated area of the grass acreage. It is a large lot with many fields. Lots of photos to document each site and all numbers gathered at each site as quantifiable documentation of the inspection.

- FAQ's

- Last years documented update. Page 2 contains the majority of updates.
- Discussion on wording. It needs to be clear that the Conservation Commission is the City not State entity.
- Wording on the exceptions and when the City Conservation Commission must be consulted and IPM needs their approval could be made clearer. JT to email DM changes requested.
- The acreage and explanation of the area need to be clear when speaking of the entire parcel of land vs. the grassy area of the total parcel. Burr Park says 33% of the park – need to be clear of the entire parcel of land or the park area on the land.
- Discussion on the mailing and what should be included in the mailing.

- MD - suggested looking at the State site for language and brochure MA consumer information bulletin must be distributed. Look at the language of notification to schools and users of school buildings.
  - Discussion of how to distribute the information and not enclosing brochures. Is a link to a website OK? We need to be mindful of reduce, recycle, reuse and use links to additional information and not mailings whenever possible and allowed. Need to look into how the information can be disseminated.
- School IPM plans – skipped as no School personnel in meeting
- TIA update on turf work at weeks field - JT
  - All fields shut down over the spring 2020 due to Covid19. Kept TIA maintenance schedule part of Weeks, Lincoln Warren, Albemarle.
  - Variables concluded the approach was pretty consistent across the 3 areas. Herbicide treatment had the biggest impact.
  - This fall - re tooled to focus exclusively at Weeks as it is one of the most used fields.
  - Missed the last deep tine aeration due to the timing of well system being repaired. Overall denser turf is seen.
  - Will be able to compare last year to this year results soon.
  - Tom Irwin - completed slice seeding in the fall. Did not get to the deep tine aeration that they had hope to do. They are still working on the documentation of the inspections of fields. As they want to have a baselining all the fields. Weeks was sliced seeded, both sides in the fall.
  - Tom Irwin did a PQS - evaluation analytics of the soil all kinds of measurements. We do not have the budget to do every field. Did 10 sites with focus on IPM and 6 other tests. Compaction levels etc.. so they can determine the status of many of the fields. Assessment done in October/ November.
- Recap of IPM History - MD
  - MD sent a 10-page document prior to the meeting via email. She asked all to read it and look it over and asked if there is any interest to see if we can get grant money to expand programs in this area? Doug Dickson was instrumental in the formation of the start of the IPM committee and former President of the Conservators. He helped lay the foundation of where we are today. This document helps to see where we have come and where we may need to re-think about being.
  - A group discussion about next steps, FY 2022 budget process will start soon, what is the bandwidth of the committee and the department. Commissioner Banks will be soon working with Derek Mannion and his staff to develop the FY 2022 budget and plans.

**Next IPM meeting January 21, 2021**