

Pesticide Advisory Committee Meeting

Sub Committee Notes

January 10, 2019

Natural Areas

Michael Lynch – **Facilitator**

Alex Roth – **Note Taker**

1. Subcommittee members' areas of expertise include botany, restoration ecology, horticulture, enforcement of noxious weed laws, etc.
2. In our positions, we see glyphosate used for buckthorn and invasive species removal, eradication of noxious weeds, controlling prohibited species and habitat creation.
3. Our objectives are to:
 - Determine uses
 - Determine objectives of uses
 - Determine alternatives to complete those objectives

Sub committee is in favor of combining with Wetlands group.

Wetlands Work Group Notes

Janice Gepner – **Note Taker**

Members present: Simba Blood, Kari Christianson, Janice Gepner

We wondered how much more there was for us to consider beyond cattails in Loring Pond.

We wanted to hear Marcia Holmberg's presentation to help answer some initial questions.

We don't have a facilitator and wanted to combine with the Natural Areas Work Group.

Garden Sub Committee

Dani Tietjen– **Note Taker this meeting**

Did not nominate a chair.

Got a more comprehensive look at the gardens in the plan from staff present.

Will set a time to go and view the gardens to gain a better understanding.

Will research the five most invasive species: Thistle, Brudock, Poison Ivy, Quack grass, Coven Fetch.

Will each research other city's park systems on what they do.

Will reach out to Hmong Garden Community to inquire about their best practice.

Golf Course& Ball Fields Sub Committee

Members Present: Jack, Vera, Russ, Christy

Christy Dolph – **Note taker**

Jack Mackinley - **Facilitator**

We determined roles for the working group:

Facilitator: Jack

Note taker: Christy

- With golf courses, biggest areas where glyphosate is used are fence lines, and around trees
- For ball fields, biggest area is agline, and fence lines
- Biggest issue with changing management practices is dealing with player expectations (for how a golf course should look/play)
- Playability around trees is an issue for alternative management practices that might replace glyphosate use with other vegetative cover
- We may need to balance golf player expectations with the community expectation for pesticide-free parks
- Line trimming – this used to be a main strategy for managing vegetation around trees; was often done by kids with clippers (ie, younger employees, trimming by hand)
- Mowing around the trees presents a danger to trees, and is dependent on operator expertise
- Other management possibilities:
 - Mulch (in a volcano so as to not present a humidity risk to the tree – mulching properly will require training)
- Russ mentioned that in his landscaping work, he had some experience with the amount of effort/cost with mulching a large number of trees – [we need to verify these numbers – I believe Russ mentioned 3 people mulching 50 trees in 4 hours?]
- We would need to know labor rates for park staff to look at what it might cost to mulch the entire tree community at each golf course
- 20 years ago people used alternative practices for golf course management, and did not rely on glyphosate; so we know these practices are possible