

**MINUTES OF THE CITIZEN OUTREACH COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2017**

A Citizen Outreach Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at 7:00PM, in the City Council office, room 204.

Committee Members: Committee Chairperson Barrett, Councillors Vargas, LePage, and Sullivan. Council President Michitson and Councillor Macek also attended.

Department Heads: David Van Dam-Chief of Staff, Richard MacDonald-Director, Health and Inspectional Services

Attendees: Steve Costa, Mike Anasi, Andrea Jensen, Gina Piacentini, Tyler Kimball, Matt Quinn, Chuck Teixeira, Dan Morelle, Christine Kelley, Brad Brooks, Rick Brown

The following items were discussed:

1. **Doc. 10-B-** Communication from President Michitson asking to request from Mayor status of facility improvements to public buildings and parks to comply with American with Disabilities act (ADA). *A motion was made by Councillor Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Vargas, to send a letter to the Mayor requesting the new Purchasing Agent provide an updated list of items needed to become compliant. It was also motioned that this Committee revisit this item on a date in October. Due to the changes in facilities management personnel at both City Hall and in the School department, it was determined that there wasn't sufficient information available to discuss City's accomplishments or goals in making City facilities more compliant for the disabled.*
2. **Doc. 10-U-**Communication from President Michitson requesting discussion on next steps to provide comprehensive long range plan for Haverhill. *President Michitson spoke of his long term goal of long range planning for the City. He cited the opportunity the City had in working with the Brandeis University MBA research/consulting project. The grad students have been working with the Mayor, department heads and other City officials to gather data to determine how to run City and plan more efficiently. The Brandeis grad students came to the City due to the work of Councillor Vargas. Councilor Vargas successfully pitched the City in a competition against other communities. He won a free consultation for the City by an exceptional group of MBA grad students. The data and report from this project will be presented to the City Council in the next 2 weeks. This research is hoped to be utilized to assist with long term planning and efficiencies.*
3. **Doc. 108-W** Communication from Councillor Bevilacqua requesting to introduce Brad Brooks and residents of Bradfields Drive and East Broadway to discuss neighborhood issues. *Neighbors from the area noted that the situation had improved over the last few months. Richard Macdonald, Director of Health and Inspectional Services, explained that the site cannot take in anymore materials although the compost can be removed from the site. He also stated that Inspectional Services have been at the site almost daily working with Mr. Kimball to minimize the odors coming from the compost operation. Neighbors asked that trucks arriving could be limited to a time after 7:00AM. They also asked that he not turn compost on weekends as that is the most likely time neighbors would be utilizing their yards. Mr. Kimball noted that all were welcome to call him if they had issues.*

*The operation is being monitored by Health an Inspectional Services under the noisesome trade ordinance. Mr. Macdonald suggested that he be the contact person for any neighbors being impacted by the compost operation. He will have meetings with neighbors as needed. Health and Inspectional Services would also be available to work with Mr. Kimball in both running compost operation and exploring other possible operations on that site.**

4. **New Business -** Steve Costa had questions about how the City is going about assuring ADA compliance. He cited Greenleaf School issues as to not being compliant among other issues at the building. Mr. Costa also questioned the ability of Inspectional Services to handle the volume of calls it receives. Mr. MacDonald noted that Inspectional Services are busier than ever with complaints. Mr. Costa asked if the City could adopt regulations in regard to rundown/ abandoned housing.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councillor Sullivan and seconded Councillor Vargas.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda E. Barrett, Chairperson
Citizen Outreach Committee

August 18, 2017

MEB/bsa

*Handout from Rick Brown

c: Mayor Fiorentini
City Councilors