

Present: Michael Halley, Daryn Hamilton, Doug Flournoy, Kevin Flanagan

Points of discussion

MUM has requested exemption from city waste hauling services for certain university owned properties on campus. They prefer to contract their own trash collection for specific properties. Committee saw no reason to force them to use the city's contract with Waste Management. Hamilton motioned to allow MUM properties exemption from Waste Management trash and recycling pick up, Flournoy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Halley summarized progress on an updated city tree ordinance and asked the committee for feedback on a few areas:

- Banning tree topping
- Banning soil drenching treatment for Emerald Ash Borer
- Protecting legacy trees on private property

Halley explained that these measures are common in newer urban tree codes and are designed to protect trees and wildlife from avoidable harm. Committee supports adding them to the new tree ordinance that Halley is drafting.

Halley updated the committee on plans for a community garden project in 2014. Among the city's responsibilities for the Blue Zones Project is establishing a new community garden and developing community garden policy. Past attempts to establish such gardens generally fail from lack of continually participation, often due to inconvenient location. Halley is in communication with owners of a lot adjacent to Howard Park where the outdoor Farmers Markets are held. With crowds of people with interest in local foods gathered each Saturday morning this location would hopefully be better utilized and maintained from planting through harvest. Committee supports the concept and suggests a utility check be completed and some kind of legal agreement be formed with the property owners. Halley will continue to pursue and develop this project as well as a community garden policy for the council to adopt in spring.

Recommendations/Actions

Committee will recommend that the full council allow MUM to exempt certain properties from city waste collection.

Respectfully submitted by Michael Halley