



**Parks & Greenways Board  
Special Meeting Minutes  
April 4, 2025  
Time of Meeting: 4:00 p.m.  
Laurel Park Town Hall**

**Attendees:**

Judy Lyons – Vice Chair/Acting Chair  
Pat La Salle – Secretary  
Denise Layfield

In light of the unexpected resignation of Chair, John McGregor on March 29, 2025, Acting Chair, Judy Lyons, called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM.

**Meeting Discussion**

The objective for the Special Meeting was intended to review the bids for the work to clear and seed Canal Park, vote on awarding the contract and proceeding to schedule the work. Note: The Board has received a bid from each of 2 landscape companies (Rhodes Stump Removal and Excavation and OKA Landscaping). A third company was solicited but No Bid the request. The urgency in doing so is a need to capitalize on the spring season to establish the plantings and advance the greening/improvement of Canal Park. Unfortunately, the unavailability of Todd Plessel, the vacancy left by Joe Robustelli's relocation and the resignation of John McGregor left the Board short of the 4 required for a quorum to move/vote on a proposal.

The remaining Board members proceeded as far as able with the review and provisionally agreed on Rhodes Stump Removal as the contractor of choice due to the price as well as Rhodes' recent experience with completing similar work.

The remainder of the meeting focused on what the Board could do to continue to move forward as the lack of a quorum is likely to recur or continue for the short-term.

**Recruiting/Filling Vacancies**

Mailings and other attempts to attract applicants for the Board have been largely unsuccessful. It was agreed that an in-person/one-on-one contact with potential candidates is more likely to meet with success. Denise Layfield has contacted 3 potential applicants that have been invited to complete an application and to attend Tuesday's upcoming Board meeting.

As the Board is at a standstill in the light of the current quorum shortfall, the Board brainstormed thoughts on how best to proceed.

### **Action Items**

In the event that the By-Laws prescribe a mechanism for this contingency, a review of same is in order.

- Pat La Salle agreed to review the Laurel Park website for the By-Law language.
- Denise Layfield has requested a copy from our Town Administration.
- Judy Lyons agreed to speak with George Banta to get his thoughts and opinion on our dilemma.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 PM.