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July 4, 2021

To: The Town of Southwest Harbor,
Town Manager and Board of Selectmen, Southwest Harbor; SW Harbor Public Works Dept.;
SW Harbor Conservation Commission; American Legion Post 69, SW Harbor.

Dear SWH Friends,

I know that I am not a citizen of Southwest Harbor; however, I consider myself an adopted son having worked on the design, fundraising, and installation of Charlotte Rhoades Park and the Veterans' Park for your lovely village.

I recently stopped by the Veterans' Park to see how it was faring. I was dismayed to see that weeds were choking out the cobbled areas around the insignia stone and that the benches and stone itself were in need of a good power wash. Although the park was designed to be "Low Maintenance" —it is not "No-Maintenance". After 25 years the stone dust between the cobbles has eroded.

Lack of new stone dust and no weeding has allowed the weeds to catch hold. Hopefully the area can be weeded and re-grouted with stonedust. This may mean heavy weeding with a screwdriver as well as an herbicide spray before new stone dust is added. A "Poly-Sand" dust could be mixed in after weeding to help slow or minimize regrowth of weeds. The insignia/medallion stone should be power-washed at least once a year to remove pollen and stains.

As a symbol for the town and a proud memorial honoring the Veterans, this park should be maintained to perfection to reflect the pride of the community. It may be necessary to employ a landscape company to assist with this work each year if the maintenance crews are stretched too thin. All in all the park is in relatively good condition, although additional weeding, pruning and infill plantings could be added to enhance the overall look each season. I also noted that the original garbage cans for the park were not in place and that there was a "Trip-able stump" from an old Christmas Tree still in the center of the lawn.

Southwest Harbor should be very proud of their green spaces. Both the Rhoades Park Butterfly Garden and Veterans Park received Merit Design Awards (a prestigious national recognition bestowed by the **Boston Society of Landscape Architects** for design excellence). The Southwest Harbor Veterans Park received this esteemed honor several years ago while competing with much larger cities throughout New England. This small greenspace is truly your "Central Park". It was built through the grass roots efforts of your home-grown Veterans to honor their town and their country and their forgotten heroes. I hope that that the same pride that created the park will carry on and help make this tiny park the true heart of the village. I ask only that you consider some simple means for preserving its beauty for the future in terms of providing an endowment for increased budget toward maintenance and rotational plantings.

I hope that the park will continue to flourish for many years to come. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Yours,

Bruce John Riddell, Landscape Architect

January 6, 2022

Carroll House LLC
c/o Nathan Carroll
PO Box 143
Southwest Harbor, Maine 04679

Re: Hazardous Tree Located at 16 Maple Lane
Second Notice

Dear Mr. Carroll,

In November the Southwest Harbor Conservation Commission sent a letter to you, notifying you of a tree on your property that presents a danger to drivers and pedestrians on Maple Lane, and to children, staff and cars present in the parking lot at Pemetic Elementary School. You are receiving this letter because we have not yet heard from you regarding how these safety issues will be addressed.

As the property owner, you are responsible for ensuring that trees on your property do not pose a safety hazard to the public or the property of others. As indicated in our previous letter, options include removing the part of the tree that overhangs Maple Lane and the Pemetic Elementary School parking lot or removing the whole tree.

We would be happy to help you identify the best course of action regarding this tree and assist in finding a qualified contractor to do the work. Please contact Eleanor Park at [telephone number and/or e-mail address] by January 31, 2022, to either let us know your plan and schedule for addressing the safety issues associated with this tree or to further discuss this matter and any questions you might have.

This issue will be on the agenda for the next Southwest Harbor Board of Selectman's meeting to be held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the Fire Station. You are welcome to attend this meeting and participate in the discussion.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Park, Tree Warden
Jim Geary, Chair, Southwest Harbor Conservation Commission
Southwest Harbor Conservation Commission

cc: Town Manager or Select Board Chair Name Goes Here