

Morristown Conservation Commission

September 15, 2022

Attendees: Mariah Keagy (on-line), Ron Stancliff, Jim Pease, Kristen Connelly, Dave Stevens, Jennifer Andrews,

Absent: Dick Sargent, Jess Zehngut, Brent Teillon

Guests: Evelyn and Jerry Throne

Meeting opened at Town Hall at 6:30

The August 18th meeting minutes were approved.

Old Business:

1. Community Value Mapping - Mariah and Kristen have been very busy but one public meeting was held. They have digitized the public meeting data. MCC could set up a table at Rocktoberfest on September 24 in front of Town Hall. We need people to fill out the survey on the town web site: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Morristownvalues> We have 30 surveys completed to date. Kristen and Jennifer will help with the Rocktoberfest table; Kristen has the table and the maps.
2. Sue Morse Talk - there can be no community events at PA yet due to Covid. We will not schedule her talk yet.
3. Town Forest Parking Lot - We have the okay from the Department of Forest and Parks, but we are still waiting for Eric to put out a request for proposals. Ron will tell Brent to let everyone know when the RFP goes out.
4. Other - Public Trees - Fran Sladyk is the new Morristown Tree Warden. Jim will try and find old municipal tree inventories for Morrisville. We will put a discussion about Morrisville Village Trees on the agenda for October. Ron will ask Fran to attend, and Jim will ask Trish of MACC to attend. We may want to have a presentation on tree planting by the Lamoille Natural Resources Conservation District as they do a lot of plantings each year.

New Business:

1. Zoning Changes - There will be a meeting on 9/27 with the Planning Council to discuss proposed changes to the zoning. Ron will attend but not as a MCC member. He has concerns about the steep slope ordinance. There has been a lot of discussion about PC meetings, zoning changes and development on Front Page Forum.
2. Next Town Forest Workday - will be October 1. The lumber for the bridges is at the forest and the PA athletic department and students may help move the wood to the sites.

3. Book Club with the Library - Jess and Kristen would like to form an open space themed book club. There are a number of books that would be good candidates. MCC members should participate in discussion about green space and planting trees in Morrisville. The club would meet this winter but could be ongoing.

4. Rocktoberfest will be September 24.

5. Other - Jenn sent her resignation letter to the Selectboard and Ron. She will be back and would like to help with various projects but not be on the board. MCC should advertise for her opening. The two people, Martha Battle and David Eisenbaum, could not come in September.

- Jim mentioned that there was dumping of construction debris on the Greaves Farm on Washington Highway. Ron will ask Sharon if she has a permit for the dumping.

- Ron, Fran Sladyk, Brent, David and Emily Potter (Lamoille County Forester) met about the deer exclusion project on the Town Forest. The site chosen was near historic site #3 where apple trees were released several years ago. The project will be installed and maintained by the state and will stay for 10 years.

- Ron a year ago had Mud Brook in the Town Forest surveyed where it abuts Liebler's land. There is about 7-8 acres that Liebler owns that is not accessible from his side of the brook. Dave made the motion to investigate acquiring the land and adding it to the Town Forest. Jenn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Ron handed out maps of the CCS property that abuts the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail., Rte. 15 and Pinewood Estates. Ron will ask Ray Chauvin if he has interest in conserving the property.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Respectively submitted, Jim Pease, Secretary.