

January 19, 2023

Attendees: Attendees: Ron Stancliff, Dave Stevens, Jim Pease, Kari Anderson, Dick Sargent, Kristen Connelly

Members Absent: Jess Zehngut, Brent Teillon, Mariah Keagy

Guests: Melissa Jordan

Meeting opened at Town Hall at 6:30

The December meeting minutes were approved.

Guest Discussion: Pollinator Gardens - Melissa provided handouts for the upcoming speaker Bethany Barry from Addison County at the Centennial Library on January 31. There is a lot of public interest in this topic. Barry will discuss what has been done in Addison County. There will be a round table discussion about what people can do on their own property and a discussion on volunteering for municipal projects. In the discussion it was suggested that Melissa could work with Friends of the Oxbow, LCNRC, Raise the Blade and the Annual Library Plant Sale, and the Town & Village Road Crews. How could MCC be involved? Pollinator plantings can act as geographic islands to provide pollinators places to visit in an urbanized area. Audubon and Addison County have lists of preferred pollinator species.

Old Business

1. Community Value Mapping - there are as of yet no updates, Mariah and Kristen are talking about next steps, Mariah needs to complete the mapping work. Town Meeting Day may not be the right forum; the N&C or a web site may be better. There were 105 responses which is a statically valid sample for the Town. Ron thinks we should inform the Select board of the findings.
2. Village Tree Inventory - Jim summarized the activity to date: we have inventory reports from 1998 and 2004, only the 1998 report has data available. Jim asked LCPC to digitize the data and they have agreed to help. We will get the data into a database and then update it in 2023. Jim also asked MACC if they would donate \$50 towards the 2023 ArcMap License and they have agreed. Kristen made a motion for the MCC to donate the matching \$50. The motion was approved unanimously.
3. Town Forest Objectives/Goals - the South Boundary Trail should be completed this year. There are a lot of blow-downs from this winter that will need to be cleaned up. There is a west side trail that has been started and could be worked on in 2023. There is no news yet on the kiosks or the new parking lot. Eric has a draft bid request for the parking lot construction according to Dave.
4. Trees - there is a record black ash tree on the Neuland property which may be conserved this year. MCC should consider protecting the tree with insecticide from the Emerald Ash Borer.
5. 5 Park St LLC. lot proposed development: Ron handed out copies of February DRB hearing on the proposed development showing error done by the surveyor for 5 Park Street that affected both Morristown owned land surrounding Centennial Library and United Community Church of Morrisville. Survey of church owned land has been completed and recorded. Morristown has hired and out of town surveyor to survey the town owned land. The results may have a profound affect on the proposed development.

New Business/Member Reports

1. Dick: the new house next to the Lamoille River at 147 Bridge St is 50 feet from the river but the parking lot for the house is not which defeats the purpose of the zoning regulation to protect the river from runoff. Should we reverse the zoning requirement?

2. Ron: the 2023 Town Report MCC report draft is done.
3. Green Up Day is May 6th this year. Brent will coordinate this year since Jennifer has left.
4. Ron will meet with the Trustees in April to talk about some of the Village Parcels being transferred to the Town and not being sold to private interests. Kristen and Dick suggested we notify Eric Dodge that we were doing this ahead of the meeting.
5. Kristen: We should review the adopted Town Plan and discuss what MCC needs to do to comply.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:55 pm

Respectively submitted,

Jim Pease, Secretary