January 18, 2024

Attendees: Ron Stancliff, Dave Stevens, Jerry Throne, Jim Pease, Brent Teillon, Jess Zenghut, Pamela Stanyon, Sandra Zebal
Members Absent: Kari Anderson
Guests: None

Meeting opened at Town Hall at 6:30
The November and December meeting minutes with a correction were approved.

Old Business

1. Dr Lundblad Property - is a 52 acre property bordering the Duhamel pit/Town property. Ron has sent a letter to see the owners, who are out of state, are interested in conserving it. The property is valued at about $5000/acre.

2. Koper Property - the celebration was very good although the NC representative did not show (an article was printed on Friday). Brent sent some photos of the property. The project happened largely under Ron's initiative.

3. January 6th Town Meeting - was not well attended. Kari had questioned the Select board members about the MCC land conservation fee proposal. Jerry, Brent and Ron attended. Consensus is that the Select board is afraid that the current budget will not pass because of the conservation fee. The board said the fee was contrary to what they wanted to do this year, and is not really interested in new requests for funding. Should we submit a petition? The board must decide what is on the Town meeting ballot by 1/29 and the deadline for submitting a petition was 1/18. Chris Palermo said every town department was to reduce their budget this year. The existing conservation fund could be used for "seed" funding for a fund raiser for a larger project.

4. Kiosk-Jim gave Walter O the final edits on the Town Forest Map and it is up to Walter to complete the map. Jess will ask when Walter expects to have the Kiosk completed.

5. Town Foest-Matt Read and Ron surveyed the Town Forest lot in 2012 but the survey was never completed or recorded with the Town. The final survey should include Muddy Brook. Brent made the motion to provide up to $200 for completing the survey and having it recorded. The motion was approved.

New Business

1. Citizen training on recycling - Brent went to LRSWMD and inquired about training on recycling. The district has a staff person who can do the training. The MCC wil cosponsor the training, possibly at the library on 4/27 if that date is available. A motion to sponsor this event was approved. Sandra, Pam and Evelyn Throne will help Brent.

2. GreenUp Day - We have $3000 from the Town to pay for disposal costs (trash, metal and tires). We should coordinate with the Euro-soccer trip to collect the containers with deposits as well. We need a new 10x10 tent to replace the old one which broke. Pam will advertise for one in FPF. We could do GreenUp swag as there is a lot of available on the state web site.

3. Arbor Day - is 4/26. We should do some kind of planting project on that day. Jim will contact Peter Danforth and see if we can collaborate with the Oxbow planting going on this spring. A motion that the MCC be involved with a spring planting was approved.

4. Town Forest Celebration Day - We should hold an event to inform and educate the public about the Town Forest trails and parking. Various historic or trail walks could be given. A motion to hold the celebration and start planning for it on June 15 was approved.

5. Duhamel Site Visit - Ron wants to walk the Duhamel property line. Jerry will assist him. He would also like to purchase and plant more trees on the property. According to Fran S White Pine might be the best species for the restored slopes. Due to how dry it is planting in the fall might be a better option. Apple is another species that might do well. We will meet up there in May for the monthly meeting. A motion was made to hold the MCC May meeting at the property and was approved.

6. Sunset Drive Drainage - Jim mentioned that the Town had asked him to look at a problem with too much stormwater runoff between Sunset and Silver Ridge Rds. Apparently, the Town was involved back in the 1980s in trying to resolve the problem. There is a 1000' 6" line that is handling the water currently and it overflows and causes icing on Silver Ridge Rd. Jim will talk to LCNRCD and see if they will be interested in taking on the project.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:52 pm
Respectively submitted,
Jim Pease, Secretary