

Village Enhancement Committee

Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Location: Webster Hall

Time: 5:00-6:30

Topics: Tree Canopy Project, East River Project, Utility Box Art Project, town sign installation, benches, bulletin board options

Present: Sue Davis, Katherine Donnelly, Jan Royall, Judy Lewald, Claudia Diller, Melissa Hoisington,

Absent: Jess Beers

- Claudia moved to approve the September minutes, Jan seconded, all in favor
- Agenda edited. #2.5 Robin K., *also reviewing future projects (other items)*
Katherine moved to approve the agenda, Judy seconded, all in favor

- Robin K. attended to discuss the tree canopy grant from the state. It was believed that the original DOT plan for rt 27 included replanting trees. The VEC has been waiting for the DOT project to be completed to address this. Robin contacted Jennifer Paul (207-582-5795) for information. They found no trees mentioned in the plan. Icons for trees were found in the legend on the maps. If DOT does agree to plant trees they do not replant 100%. The project manager for this project is Rhobe Moulton(207-592-6058). Robin has done research on the original plan and will email us her information. Jim Britt is connected to the state tree canopy project. There is a grant in 2024. Jan Santerre is the contact person. Training for writing the grant takes place in Augusta in February. Grants are due in March and awarded in April. Sue suggested we form a tree subcommittee after receiving information from Robin. Claudia discussed including businesses in Kingfield in purchasing and caring for the trees and possibly having a floral theme for the town.

Robin K. interviewed Mrs. Hagerstrom and is adding this to the Kingfield Historical Walking Tour.

- East River Project-
Sue is working on having the guardrail moved back to allow parking at the site with Rhobe Moulton, MaineDOT design person for the Kingfield project.
- Discussion of reading and organizing binders for easier access to information.
- Utility Box Art Update-
Jesse is in contact with Bailey. No update on when work will be completed. *Sue commented on the MOFGA's Common Ground Fair logo, which is the monarch butterfly this year. If Bailey's work could include more color that showed the actual butterfly and the host plant's flower, she would like it better.*

- Town signs installation-
Installation has been started. Plaques have been added to north and south signs.

- Benches project update-
Judy and Melissa presented pictures of possible bench locations.
Katherine had an estimate of costs. The quote is \$6,825.35 with tax and shipping.
The benches will be a composite material in a natural cedar color with black iron.
We need to discuss this with Leanna for installation and storage.
Sue will email Leanna to have this put on the agenda for the selectmen's meeting on Monday, October 16, 2023.

- Action item- Jan and Katherine will attend the selectmen's meeting and present this to the selectboard for approval.

- Reconsidering Bulletin Board options-
Claudia looked around town to consider possible locations. It was determined that outside the Post Office and at Mainely Provisions would work.
A sign will say "Kingfield Town News". Information will be posted for such activities as the time of meetings and some information from the meetings.
Both boards will be the same. Claudia will speak with Sam Monahan about designing the boards.

- After a short discussion, Sue and Claudia decided to draft a letter to Ware-Butler about taking down the lighted sign.

- Future projects-
 1. Banners on street lights (Jan). An idea is to work with the historical society to create banners to highlight historical locations.
 2. Flowers in town (Sue).
 3. Electric car chargers (Jan)-Discussion of possible locations

The next meeting will take place Wednesday, November 8 @ 5:00.
Katherine moved to adjourn, Judy seconded, all in favor.
Respectfully submitted by Melissa Hoisington, committee secretary.