

Village Enhancement Committee

Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2024
Location: Webster Hall
Time: 5:00-5:30
Topics: East River/Dam Project, Rt. 27 Corridor Project
Present: Sue Davis, Katherine Donnelly, Jan Royall, Judy Lewald, Claudia Diller,
Absent: Melissa Hoisington

- Sue called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM, noting that several members have to leave by 5:30
- *Approval of February 14, 2024, minutes; Claudia moved to approve, Jan seconded, all in favor*
- **Jess Beer has resigned**, citing lack of Select Board support for VEC efforts. All agreed with the sentiment. Claudia and Katherine will talk with Jess to see if they can change her mind. Otherwise, committee members will think of who else might be an asset to the committee for next month's meeting.
- Jan reported on the **"Dam Project" on the Mill Pond**. Jan met with the Kingfield Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) who said that all permits were in place. She then met with Mark Wahl who provided an updated quote of \$28,800, increased based on amsecond even more serious flooding incident. That quote covers labor, rocks, loam, seed and hay. Jan and Sue then met with Mark and Betty Ann Listowich of Norpine landscaping at the Dam. Betty Ann was asked about putting c. 3 shade trees near the picnic tables and other possible plantings to help secure the final fix. All agreed the repaired area should be cordoned off for at least one year. Mark asked how soon MaineDOT could remove guardrails for heavy equipment to get in—MDOT will be removing guardrails as they fix the road damage from the 12/18/23 flood. Action items: Sue will talk to MDOT; Claudia will talk with Betty Ann.
- Claudia introduced a tree planting project she's calling the **Kingfield Rt. 27 Corridor Beautification Project** extending from Carrabassett Coffee to Dollar General, consisting of trees and flowering bushes. She has asked Betty Ann/Norpine to provide a quote for purchase, installation and 1-to-2 years maintenance to ensure success. Betty Ann needs to know where the benches will be located. Then the VEC. (Betty Ann?) will approach affected landowners for permission. *Judy moved to accept the proposal, seconded by Katherine and passed unanimously.*
- **Bench permissions**: Judy will meet with Kingfield Town Manager Leanna to start the permission process, which she and Melissa will then start. [Benches are

being shipped 5/9, arriving the week of 5/15.] Judy and Melissa will determine how the benches will be installed, whether on cement pads or not and how they will be anchored.

- **Kingfield website:** Katherine will talk with Polly about the current site then go to Leanna about the possibility and the VEC proposal [and to add business links].
- **Village business group:** Based on the VEC's mission to market Kingfield, Claudia has talked with Julie Swain, who operates the Made in Maine shop in the former Keenan building, about approaching all village businesses about joint marketing efforts. These could include everything from seasonal banners on light poles to joining Upcountry Artists in a full-page ad in Down East magazine to promote shopping on Main Street in Kingfield during Homecoming when Upcountry Artists markets the Art Show at Sugarloaf. Julie has agreed to speak with all Village businesses.
- **Charging Stations:** Jan still thinks they could work in the space between the Mason's and Keenan buildings. Sue suggested the street side of Silanpää's lot.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 10.

Katherine moved to adjourn @ 5:30 pm, Judy seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Sue Davis for Melissa Hoisington, secretary.