

CEC Meeting Minutes – July 1, 2021

Attendees:

Dan Clohossey Anna Wolf
Sheila Blum Joy White
Dian Seidel
Stuart Sessions

Minutes

- Minutes approved from previous meeting
- **July 14 Work Session Planning**
 - Canopy Tree Workgroup will be reviewing Urban Forest ordinance tree additions and removals to gain Town Council agreement on modifications to the list of “canopy” trees in the ordinance – the result would be a small increase in the number of trees which require Town Arborist review before a removal permit can be approved.
 - Healthy Lawns (adopting the County Pesticide Law) – the Healthy Lawns working group has developed a detailed memo to review all the pros and cons of the County’s pesticide law which 16 of 19 independent County communities have already adopted. Goal is to have the town officially opt into the law (Chapter 33B of County code). Discussed importance of communications, info and education on the impact that pesticides have on our environment. Discussed completing an email canvas of Committee members to gain support, especially of our voting members.
- **American Rescue Plan Act** – Dan presented details of ARPA funds that can be used for stormwater infrastructure. Details in PowerPoint attached to meeting minutes email. Stuart framed the issue in terms of the usual “conveyance” conversation (i.e. how to move more water quickly out of the way) vs. “treatment” (i.e. retaining and treating water where it is vs. just trying to get rid of it as quickly as possible). Stuart offered to join the team looking at project ideas. Dian raised the idea that perhaps both “flood” and “drought” resilience should both be addressed, since both will be increasing as a result of climate change.
- **Quiet Landscaping**
 - Signs posted in public spaces will be updated to show that subsidy program has been extended to end of the calendar year
 - Further communication efforts will be undertaken including participation at the Fall event which Community Relations is setting up.
- **Canopy Tree**
 - In addition to Urban Forest memo mentioned above, another memo has been created to give Town Council an update on progress that Dian, Dan and Lees have made on developing a Tree Census and Long-Term Monitoring Program. The memo will be delivered to Town Council for their July meeting, as a Progress Update.
 - Still waiting for placement of “Tree City” signage in 5-6 locations around Town

- **Green Fair/Website** – Anna has completed significant work on our website and Katrina completed a Webinar instruction document.
- **Forecast Newsletter Schedule** – Dan completed summer energy-saving Tip for July Forecast. There is no August Forecast so next memo will be in September Forecast on Pesticides (Stuart).
- **Events Schedule** –Stream Monitoring event on on July 17 with Frank Sanford; CEC will participate in Fall Event at Lawton Center, timing and details TBD.

Other Topics:

Dan discussed other misc. topics:

- Membership solicitation has been extended to July 31.
- Blower subsidy program going well, deadline extended to end of calendar year
- Extended Producer Responsibility – MD law HB36; Dan is in touch with Delegate Lierman’s office so we can help advocate for this bill when the time is right; bill would potentially affect cost & success of Town recycling programs
- County Climate Plan – was officially released last week; Dan will review to see where/how we can align Town efforts to support the County’s aggressive greenhouse gas reduction goals
- Town Fall event – Community Relations is looking to schedule an in-person event at Lawton Center which we can participate in.