

Monthly Report to LaFayette Town Board

LaFayette Advisory Conservation Commission (LACC)

November 4, 2021

Submitted by: Mark Distler, LACC Chair

These are the LACC activities between October 8 and November 4, 2021:

1. **Membership** – No change in membership.
2. **Meetings** – No meeting was held. The next one is scheduled for November 16.
3. **Special Projects** - See attached status summary of special projects requested by the Town Supervisor.
Of note:
 - a. The LACC received approval from Supervisor McConnell to obtain cost quotations for the tree and bench memorial program, which is expected to be ready for roll-out next Summer, if approved.
 - b. At the request of Supervisor McConnell, the LACC reviewed the current solar farms law (290-35(H)) as well as similar laws from other towns, and are developing recommendations for law revisions, which will be submitted by end of the year.

LACC Project & Program Status Summary

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Sub team</u>	<u>Current Action</u>	<u>Previous Actions</u>
Special Projects				
Comprehensive Plan Update	Participate on Tiger Team to update 2012 Comprehensive Plan	Carole, Kelly, Mark	-Provide input on revisions to CP based on public input	-Submitted input on vision, goals, objectives, action items -Provided input on land use approaches -Wrote FAQs for public communication -Prepared for public open house & hearing (10/28)
Senior Center	Propose concepts to connect visitors to the nature of Stafford Park	Kelly, Larkin, Mark	-ESF to design ravine landscape & new plantings in Spring '22 -Look for grants that could fund the construction	-Met ESF to discuss their involvement -Received Supervisor's and Optimist's approval to proceed w/ ESF -Got construction ROM cost estimates for ravine & nature trail plantings
Parks	Propose concepts to increase visitor's awareness of nature and/or environment	Amy, Keith, Mark	-Obtain cost estimates for trees & benches -Work out transaction details w/ Chartrand -Select concept for Bailey Park for Spring 22	-Developed list of concepts -Finalized list of plantings for ESF by September; involve Optimists & Prince -Drafted tree/bench memorial program -Received Supervisor approval to obtain cost estimates
Bailey Park Tree Planting	Coordinate planting of trees at Bailey Park to replace those removed	Amy, Mark	COMPLETED	-Obtained cost quote to plant 5 trees -Received Supervisor's approval -Coordinated planting & residents' donation
Electric Car Charging Stations	Develop scope & cost for stations on Town property	Mark	-Request contractors for installation estimates at two locations -Look for new funding programs in Spring '22	-Contacted CNYRPDB to learn about funding options -Got Supervisor approval to contact contractors
Solar Farms	Propose recommendations on siting policy	Carole, Kelly, Doug	-Submit final recommendations to Supervisor by end of year	-Researched other towns' guidance -Drafted recommendation edits to current law

Agritourism	Recommend approaches to create a Town initiative	Isabella, Larkin, Mark	-Discuss possible scopes with Palmer -Consider farm products census	-Discussed possible scopes with Supervisor
Wild Parsnip	Propose approaches to manage the risk of plant at Stafford Park	Claire, Kelly	-Recommend distribution of the new fact sheet via social media (discuss with information officer) -Consider expanding resident education to other invasive and hazardous plants	-Discussed with Supervisor prior to identification -Prepared warning signs for installation at parks -Developed fact sheet
Culture Building Programs				
Town Newsletter Articles	Provide communications that increase resident's awareness to nature and environmental conservation	Rotating authors	Write 1Q article on plastic exposure - due December 10	Q4 - LACC update, plastic recycling Q3 - LACC update, tick safety
Town Website	Post conservation topics	Mark	Obtain Supervisor & IO approvals	
Natural Resource & CEA Inventory	Provide recommendations for future land use policies	TBD	On hold until CP update is finalized	
Resident Experts	Use resident experts to address conservation-related needs of Boards, as they come up	Mark	Speak with Supervisor about program and ways to eliminate liability concerns for volunteers	