**Monthly Report to LaFayette Town Board**

LaFayette Advisory Conservation Commission (LACC)

October 7, 2021

Submitted by: Mark Distler, LACC Chair

These are the LACC activities between September 10 and October 7, 2021:

1. **Membership** – No change in membership.

1. **Meetings** – A meeting was held on September 21.
2. **Special Projects** - See attached status summary of special projects requested by the Town Supervisor. Of note:
3. The LACC facilitated the contracting and planting of five trees replacing the ones removed at Bailey Park. Dave Prince, Amy Roe (park neighbor), and Carol Watson were involved in the selection of the tree locations and species.
4. The LACC, working with the ESF landscape architecture professor, developed cost estimates for the ravine landscape and nature walk at Stafford Park. A two-year budget was submitted to Supervisor McConnell on September 19. The ESF designs are expected in May 2022.

|  |
| --- |
| **LACC Project & Program Status Summary** |
|  | **Objective** | **Sub team** | **Current Action** | **Previous Actions** |
| **Special Projects** |
| **Comprehensive Plan Update** | Participate on Tiger Team to update 2012 Comprehensive Plan | Carole, Kelly, Mark | -Provide input on revised objectives & action items in Sep-Prepare for public open house week of Oct 24 | -Submitted input on vision, goals, objectives, action items-Provided input on land use approaches-Wrote FAQs for public communication |
| **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 | -Draft tree/bench memorial program-Follow-up with Supervisor about 2022 budget-Select concept for Bailey Park for Spring 22 | -Developed list of concepts-Finalized list of plantings for ESF by September; involve Optimists & Prince |
| **Tree Planting** | Coordinate planting of trees at Bailey Park | Amy, Mark | -Check that trees are properly planted-Follow-up with resident looking to donate a tree in memory of another resident | -Obtained cost quote to plant 5 trees-Followed-up with Supervisor to initiate contracting |
| **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 | -Review current local law-Research other towns' guidance-Plan to provide by end of year |   |
| **Agritourism** | Recommend approaches to create a Town initiative | Isabella, Larkin, Mark | -Discuss scope with Palmer-Consider farm census | Discussed possible scopes with Supervisor |
| **Stormwater Control** | Recommend mitigation measures for stormwater issues on Jamesville-Apulia Rd | Markus | Consult 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 newsletter, social media (discuss with info. 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 recyclingQ3 - 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 |   |