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Community Forest Commission Meeting Minutes 2/17/17

Present: Shirley McCarthy, Louise LaMontagne, Joann Minicozzi, Diana Ross

Absent: Nancy Mancini, Chris Woerner

1. Minutes from 1/19/16 were approved. Motion by J.Minicozzi, seconded by L.LaMontagne.
2. Tree Stewards: The CFC will further discuss the role of Community Tree Stewards prior to next month's meeting. L.LaMontagne suggested using the existing voter districts for the designated stewardship areas.
3. ATB Grant/Main Street Streetscape: D.Ross applied for an ATB Grant to fund approximately 20 trees along a section of Main Street between Hillside and Chestnut Streets. If grant money cannot be obtained, other sources of funding will have to be found. Diana is working with landscape architect Larry Appleton on the types of trees to be planted, given space limitations. They would ideally like to plant a variety of native flowering and shade trees. The replanting of Main Street would be one section at a time and would hopefully begin in 2018. Diana also met with the Town Center Review Board and it was suggested that the town retain a company with both an engineering and landscape architect staff to develop a plan for tree replacement. S. McCarthy mentioned that West Main is also in need of trees. The state is responsible for that area but her concern is that DOT has not been reliable with watering and maintenance of their trees.
4. Mulching: S.McCarthy designed a flyer (draft attached) that shows good and bad mulching methods and plans on having the flyers available at the transfer station as well as distributed to businesses that sell mulch. J. Cosgrove, D. Ross and D. McGowan agree.
5. S.McCarthy compiled Joann's and her edits to the Tree Management Plan document. D.Ross was given a copy to review.
6. Monarch Corridor update: S.McCarthy, D.Ross, and D. McGowan met with Jamie Cosgrove regarding Monarch Corridor sites. They discussed site location, who would oversee them, what would be planted, and who would be responsible for maintenance (draft Table attached). D.Ross plans to contact Eleanor Saulys, a local botanist, to help her identify what's there, such as existing pollinator plant species.. YMCA Director Doug Shaw would like to discuss native plantings for pollinators and monarchs at the Y with D. Ross.
7. The Commission discussed the need to be on the lookout for potential recipients of the Ecofriendly Award to be given at our annual Arbor Day Celebration.
8. New Business: There was no new business discussed.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm: Motion by S.McCarthy, seconded by J.Minicozzi.