

## Water Street Land Use Committee

**Meeting Minutes:** *Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 5:00 p.m.*

Jamaica Town Office

Called to order 5:08

**Committee Members Attending:** Kate Ullman (selectboard liaison), Jacki Brown (chair), Anne Connor (recording), Erica Bowman (member/subject matter expert)

**Newcomers:** Chrisman Kearn, Riley Brown

**1: Welcome.** Jacki updated newcomers on the project. Goals: Grow wildflowers and remove invasive plant species. Chrisman and Riley joined the committee and are interested in volunteering on the site during planting season.

### **2. Name of pollinator project:**

Motion: Rename the project: *Jamaica Community Pollinator Project*. Jacki moved; Kate seconded; unanimous approval.

### **3. Discuss funding:**

- **Need:** We need about \$2,600 in grants and cash gifts to move forward this spring, including the splitter/timer discussed at the previous meeting.
- **Grants:** Anne has identified two potential grant funders: The Grassroots Fund (rolling deadline) and the Vermont Community Foundation (due March 7). Anne will send an email to the committee members asking for their demographic information since the Grassroots Fund requests a summary. Riley will look into what grant funding sources other Vermont pollinator projects have used.
- **Outreach to area schools:**
  - Riley will contact the Mountain Campus (BBA) in Peru to see if there is interest in this as an environmental field project. The request is for student volunteers to participate in the project starting with garden prep on a to-be-determined work day or days in mid to late May.
  - Kate will reach out to the Jamaica Village School to see if there is interest in the 5<sup>th</sup> graders participating (similar request).
- **Outreach to local businesses and organizations:**
  - Erica will reach out to businesses for cash donations. She will also ask the Schmids for a donation of horse manure so we can save on the manure line item.
  - Jacki will ask John Wright at Taylor Farm about a cow manure donation.
  - Riley will ask West River Provisions if we could have a donation jar in the store.
  - Anne will ask the Jamaica Benefit Association for a donation.
- **Outreach for individual gifts:**
  - Committee members are willing to make gifts.
  - Jacki will create a press release and an “ask sheet” for donations (March 1 target).
  - Anne suggested adding a QR code to the posters and ask sheets that opens a GoFundMe page. We would need the bank information for the Town of Jamaica so it

- can be transferred appropriately. Kate will ask the Town about using their bank account to deposit gifts.
- Jacki will reach out to Water Street residents.
  - Checks should be written to the Town of Jamaica, with a memo to “Jamaica Community Pollinator Project.”
  - Erica will create a Google Docs spreadsheet to track donations so we can send thank-you notes.

#### **4. Removal of invasives**

- Erica will ask J. Cravinho to update his proposal with language reflecting the services discussed (the original 2022 proposal said “mowing”).
- Jacki expressed interest in keeping the root balls from the Japanese knotweed and making tinctures. However, there is overhead in preparing it. We agreed to postpone it for a future fundraising project.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023, 5:00 p.m., Town Office. **Volunteers and other interested parties are welcome and invited to attend!**

Adjourned: 6:15 p.m.