

MONMOUTH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes– December 3, 2014

A special meeting of the Monmouth Conservation Commission (CC) was held at the Monmouth Municipal Office to discuss Project Canopy. Present were Commissioners Herb Whittier, Bob Mulliken, Larry Buggia and Cindy Parker, and guest Nancy Smith of the Monmouth Economic Development Committee (EDC). Commissioner Randy Schiller was unable to attend. Meeting began at 7:00p.

Nancy read and discussed the project outline and description. Properties included in the tree inventory and the budget were also discussed. As part of the application, three letters of support are needed from the community; a variety of organizations is favored.

We have one letter from Monmouth Academy (Monmouth Envirothon Team) and one from the EDC. A letter of support from the CC will be good as well. Also, establishing a good connection with the Cemetery Association is important, as the village center cemeteries are included.

Cindy has made contact with Michael Cyr of the Monmouth Cemetery Association, who gave his thorough support for the project. Karen Cyr may help with a letter if we want, as she handles a lot of their paperwork. Mike recommended we speak directly with Hugh LeMaster, association President. Cindy will call him tomorrow.

Larry asked if we are still looking for support from the Boy Scouts. Nancy and Cindy agreed that we seem to have enough letters of support in the works at this point; there will be good opportunity for scout (and other) help in the future “planting and maintenance” grant, and Nancy mentioned Eagle Scout candidates are always welcome, if we can find any.

Nancy asked Larry if he could ask the museum to provide a short list of heirloom apple varieties that figure in Monmouth’s history, as this may be worked into the project. Larry agreed.

Forester Harold Burnett has asked for a list of properties involved – address, name of owner, and lot number. The CC could work to put this list together, working with the ladies in the office. There are extra paper copies of the tax maps to work from, and Nancy said the maps are available on-line. The number and cost of volunteer hours and cost per hour are needed for the itemized budget on the application. Herb will get the budget info to Nancy by Dec 10th. We agreed \$25/hr for CC commissioners’ work. Herb will take the lead on the list-for-Harold project, with Bob assisting. Herb now has Copy 2 of the paper maps. (Cindy has the original and Copy 1.)

It was agreed that the CC will provide a Letter of Support for the Project Canopy project, stating the CC will generate and provide a list of properties involved in the tree inventory to Harold Burnett, including address, name of owner, and tax assessment lot number. All voted yes.

We gratefully thanked Nancy for coming and for all her work. Nancy left at 8:00p.

Herb is leaving for Florida on Tuesday, January 13th.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 7th, 2015 at 6:30p at the Municipal building (in Curt’s office, as there is a Selectboard meeting that night).

Meeting adjourned at 8:15p.

Recorded by Cindy Parker, Secretary