



**Lee Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting
January 8, 2019 at 6:30 PM
APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Lee Safety Complex 2nd floor conference room**

Members present: Paul Gasowski (chair), Jennifer Messeder, Chuck Cox, Dean Rubine

Members absent: Leslie Adams, Matt Rowell

Public present: Tim Anderson

I. Call to Order 7:55 pm

[Time from 6:30 spent judging Lee's Trees Contest. The committee extends a hearty thanks to our external judges Don Quigley, Cary Brown, and Catherine Fisher. Winners to be announced at the Jan 28 Backyard Farming Initiative at the Lee Grange, 7 pm.]

II. Preliminary Actions

A. Introductions Tim Anderson is Chuck's abutter, from Snell Rd. Welcome Tim. We mentioned the committee needs new members.

B. Approval of Agenda approved 4-0

C. Approval of Minutes from 12/11/18

Amended to correct Jen's plastic remark, town center work to date. Moved by Jen, Chuck 2nd. Approved 4-0 as amended

D. Correspondence/Events: LSC emails. Lee's Trees 30 total Lee Tree's entries, 25 of them coming in the last couple of weeks.

III. Public Comments

N/A

IV. Discussion Items/Updates

A. Waste Reduction/Composting:

Dean: Solid Waste Committee Report: Swap shop doing Saturday only winter hours. Pay per bag and swap shop signage to be discussed at Monday 1/14 meeting.

Paul: There's money in the town budget for composting. Dean: Is that for the Lawn/Yard waste or another project? Dean will investigate.

Matt: Draft Guide on Building a Container at Home

N/A

Chuck: Cooperative Extension Assistance

Chuck visited with George Estes, retired. Ran Kingman Farm composting operation. Chuck relayed how meat and dairy regulations ended Kingman Farm giving away compost. Dean: Can we get George Estes to come to a meeting? Answer: He's probably not spry enough. Dean: Maybe we could meet at his house. Paul: maybe. Chuck will follow up.

B. Lee's Trees Project Update

All: Judging and Awards

The judging was completed before the meeting. Thanks again to our outside judges. We divided the entries into kids and others (otherwise the kids would have won everything.) In the kids' categories, each of the three entries won first place in one of the three categories. For the remaining entries, we awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in the three categories. We awarded Best in Show.

Jen: Elementary School Participation and Catherine Fisher's Efforts

The school is invited to the BFI event at the Grange, and indications are they will attend. Jen will ask Principal Vaich if there will be an event at the school. Paul will give contact info to Jen.

Chuck/Paul: Planning for Backyard Farming Initiative (BFI) Celebration 1/28/19

Dean moved, Jen 2nd, motion to spend up to \$100 on food, plates and utensils for BFI 1/28. Approved 4-0, public concurs.

Dean moved, Jen 2nd, motion to spend \$200 on engraved wood plaques which can be gently hung on the winning trees, with Dave Minor the preferred vendor, others permissible. Approved 4-0. Don Quigley offered to engage Dave Minor; Paul will encourage him to do so.

Ideally, 7 plaques: First place all three categories. We need two of each, kids and adults, though I don't think we need to indicate that on the plaque. Plus Best In Show

First Place, Biggest Tree, 2018 Lee's Trees Contest

First Place, Unique Tree, 2018 Lee's Trees Contest

First Place, Tree Art, 2018 Lee's Tree Contest

Best In Show, 2018 Lee's Tree Contest

Paul will prepare certificates for winners and placers, and all the entries, for distribution on 1/28.

Food:

Fruit Plate: Paul. Veggies, broccoli arranged as trees: Jen.

Paul will coordinate utensils, plates; Dean suggests toothpicks

C. Dean: Committee Web Site Template

No progress; will work on it this time. [same report as last month!]

D. Chuck: Nuclear Disarmament Warrant Article

Chuck reports closing in on 50 signatures for Citizen Petition to get Warrant article on the ballot. Planning a presentation at Lee Deliberative Session, hopefully another before as well, possibly other speakers.

Dean moved, Chuck 2nd that we send the following letter to the Lee Select Board, with the warrant article attached.

Dear Lee Select Board,

The Lee Sustainability Committee, in its capacity as an advisory committee, requests of the Lee Select Board that you vote to recommend the passage of the non-binding resolution regarding nuclear disarmament as presented by citizen's petition to appear on the March, 2019 ballot.

Approved 4-0. Paul will send.

E. All: E-Crier Articles (Lee's Trees, Municipal Composting w/Matt Smith, Four Laws of

Ecology (Jen) Schedule of Articles for Next Four Weeks

Dean and Jen contributed drafts of articles, but the next few weeks we will post more Lee's Trees entries and attempt to raise awareness of the awards at BFI on 1/28. Paul will feature student entries: Wishing Tree, Umbilical Tree, etc. Paul will arrange those articles, and links to photo gallery.

V. New Business

A. Paul: Update LSC Budget Update for FY20

Paul reports LSC Budget cut to \$500 from \$1000. Dean: Let's try to get it back at Deliberative Session. Paul: the Select board can add it back before then. Committee wants to attempt that.

B. Paul: Town Center Project/General Update

Paul reports on a good presentation about the New Town Center. It's a huge deal for Lee. Check out the facebook page "Lee Town Center Project."

C. Initiatives for 2019 (Ongoing and New): Jen and Paul

Reviewed list from last agenda: Low Carbon Diet, BFI, Compost/Waste Stream/Swap Shop/ Reusing material, Fair, Town Center

Adding: Lee's Trees

Jen personated sustainability stones, e.g. "Unity," for Lee Fair paperweights. Asks for words for other rocks.

Paul wants to develop and launch a campaign around "useless – use less." It would be about making better choices by using less. Useless campaign to use less. Paul's working on his puns and eventually T shirts.

Chuck: Talked to member Matt Rowell. Idea to make the town more supportive of Cottage Industries. Zoning changes. Work at home. Agriculture is allowed in all zones in town; cottage industry should be as well. In Amish country there are signed for jams, honey, birdhouses, music lessons, other services, that households use to supplement their income. Dean: Does Lee have rules against cottage industry? Chuck: we can make the laws more encouraging at the municipal level. Paul: State level, too. Encourage apprenticeships.

Chuck: Concerned with litigiousness of society and issues of liability. Dean: That stops a lot of our initiatives. Paul: We're not going to solve that problem here. Chuck: Let's look into changes to building codes to encourage sustainability. For example, unstamped building material harvested and milled locally is unacceptable to inspectors. Chuck will investigate.

D. Other

N/A

VI. Public Comments

N/A

VII. Closing Actions

A. Future Meeting Dates: Second Tuesday of each month at Library

Feb 12, 2019, 6:30 pm Safety Complex, probably second floor conference room

B. Agenda Planning for Next Meeting

As noted

VIII. Adjournment

8:50 pm approved 4-0

Draft Respectfully Submitted, Dean Rubine