

LACFB Meeting 16DEC2021

Attending: Cassidy Cloutier, Sam Boss, Joshua Nagine, Dave Griswold, Roger Fuller, Mary Ann Brenchick (attending for Steve Murch), Rhyanna LaRose

Excused: Carissa Aoki, Steve Murch

Meeting Called to Order @ 6:10PM due to a slight issue/confusion with the Zoom links.

Agenda:

1. Skipping approving minutes from 18NOV2021 until the next meeting - Sam Boss will forward those minutes for review before the next meeting.
2. Public Participation - None.
3. Follow up on Replacement Trees Advocacy letters - Dave Griswold reported back to the group that letters were sent to Lewiston and Auburn - Denis D'Auteuil Auburn PW received positively and indicated he'd be willing to propose adding line item to the Auburn PW Budget, Heather Hunter at Lewiston responded indicating that there is approximately \$11K in the forestry fund for tree replacement. Mary Ann indicated that LPW wants to set aside more funding from logging (currently 20%) and is considering a presentation for council for overall tree replacement funding and explanation of urban forest/street trees.
4. Notable Trees of L-A - Report to Carissa by early January if you have a tree you want considered to be mapped for the notable trees directory, a project that Bates students will be working on in the January semester. From Carissa " I can report that we're on track to have some students work on creating the notable trees project. I'd like to have the information available for them to work with by early January. If you have favorite trees that were not on Steve's list at the last meeting, please send them along so we can compile them in a list and have them ready to go. Ideally, for each one we'll have: one or more nice photos, plus the species name, address or GPS location, notable measurements (if available), and any interesting factoids if you know them. We had also discussed building a more general website around the notable trees part, to represent LACFB more generally (and not just as a place for this map/list to live). So if anyone has any other ideas or thoughts about what you might like to include in such a website, let us know!"
5. Potential for Lewiston Arboretum - Roger Fuller reporting. As Lewiston is switching administrations, the city has been slow to respond to inquiries, so he is in a holding pattern at the moment. Rhyanna LaRose may walk the land next to Thorncrag with Roger. Dave also expressed interest in exploring the land.
6. Project Canopy ideas for 2022 (EAB Planning Grant?) - Generally, PC grant proposals are forwarded by the end of January. Emerald Ash Borer management plan highly suggested by MFS (Maine Forest Service) for communities that have not yet been impacted by EAB. There are two categories of grant available:
https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/policy_management/project_canopy/index.html
Planning & Education and Planting & Maintenance, perhaps can be used for EAB

planning. Now is the time to start to identify the next project for planting. Joshua brought up the IPCPP that was made available last year and inquired on a timeline for 2022 grant opportunities, unclear if or when at this point.

7. Street Tree Opportunities Proposal - Dave has suggested a proposal for a possible ordinance or guidance for new developments in Auburn.
8. Update on Ginko lost on Washington St - One tree has been lost on the southbound lane of Washington St in Auburn. There is speculation that it was struck by a vehicle. Ryanna also indicated that another tree may be listing and expressed concern that roots may not have taken.
9. New Business -
 - a. WinterFest events for LACFB - Tree ID / Snowshoe hike suggested by Rhyanna for Mt. Apatite, Thorncrag and Sherwood Forest. Auburn Conservation Commission / Friends of Mount Apatite / Androscoggin Land Trust and Stanton Birding Club all have opportunities here. To be discussed at the next meeting.
 - b. Salmon Point Trail work cancelled for this Saturday, but all members of LACFB have been urged to join the mailing list for LAWPC by Sam Boss, which can be done by emailing Carolyn Houtz, Education and Outreach Coordinator, Lake Auburn Watershed Protection, choutz@awsd.org. Mary Ann enthusiastically supports Carolyn as the new Education and Outreach Coordinator as well.
 - c. February 12 ribbon cutting of the new sledding hill at Franklin pastures for the City of Lewiston. It's a great opportunity to do a walking tour of the new fruit trees and the new snowshoeing path adjacent to this area. Mary Anne Brentchick can include Carolyn in this as well.

Meeting was adjourned at 06:55PM: Sam moved to adjourn, all were in favor.