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By Linda Amerighi at 8:01 am, Mar 11, 2024

MINUTES

Sharon Energy and Environment Commission March 5, 2024

Present: Lyn Mattoon, Katy Kinsolving, Doug Rick, Shrevie Shepherd, Roger Liddell (on phone)

Absent with excuse: Jane Strong, Mike Nadeau, Helena Furberg-Barnes

Lyn began the meeting asking for approval of February minutes **APPROVED**

The members then discussed the next Planning and Zoning meeting which will address the proposed screening for the solar array. Mike Nadeau has a planting plan that uses native plants and helps to screen the array from adjacent properties which he has shared with the first selectman. It is hoped that one of the plans presented will incorporate Mike Nadeau's plan. Only the First Selectman can present plans to the P and Z Commission.

Lyn then informed the members that she is working on a grant to the Connecticut Recreational Trails to restore the Kellemen nature trail which has been severely neglected over the past decade. Mike Nadeau has drawn up a plan for this restoration and the First Selectman has provided an ongoing maintenance plan. If successful, the grant will cover 50-80% of the proposed planting plan. The submission of the grant for the restoration of the nature trail is **APPROVED**

Payment for the screening of the solar array was then discussed. It was determined that this property belongs to the town and thus the town is responsible for determining how best to pay for the purchase and planting of the screening.

Michelle Alfandari, a founder of Homegrown National Park, and Mike Nadeau will give a joint talk on native plants, pollinators, promoting biodiversity and the benefit of turning lawns into meadows. It was determined that the event should be held at the Historical Society on Thursday, April 4 at 7pm. **TO DO DOUG- confirm and reserve space at Historical Society TO DO LYN-confirm date with Michelle and Mike.**

Katy and Shrevie will provide a write up about the event which can then be sent out to various organizations to advertise the event. **TO DO-Katy and Shrevie. Katy and Shrevie TO DO-organize SEEC mailing list for distribution.**

Responsibility to alert and distribute information:

Doug to contact and provide write up to Historical Society and Sharon Land Trust

Shrevie to contact Bethany at Audubon Society

Lyn to contact Sharon Garden Club, Conservation Commission and Women's Club

Lyn to send advertisement to Lakeville Journal

Katy to contact Millbrook Garden Club and NW Corner Land Trust

Promoting the April 20 Sharon Community Clean Up Day was also discussed. **TO DO Shrevie and Katy construct a poster to be distributed in the community. TO DO Shrevie to get printed by Moore and More**

Katy mentioned an email she received about Food Waste Prevention Week. Hosting a trivia night at the Edward about food waste was discussed. **TO DO Katy investigate feasibility.**

Lyn agreed to remain as Chairman of the Commission but will form committees to be in charge of various work being done within the Commission. This will include programs and events, publicity, and energy. All agreed with this arrangement.

MEETING ADJOURNED 6 :45pm

Respectfully Submitted, Shrevie Shepherd