



Present: Joyce Oliver, Karen MacGillivray, Peggy Kapisovsky, Roger Bogart, Jessica Weller, Sheila McCandless, Sandy and Ole Jaeger, Jim Peavey

Minutes for our meeting on 1/10/22 had been previously approved and distributed.

Jessica Weller, from the Georgetown Conservation Commission, talked about the Amphibian Watch program, also known as “The Big Night”, which will debut next week. Several local volunteers will be joining Jessica to scope out Georgetown sites where it is likely amphibians would cross roads. The goal is to protect them from untimely interactions with passing vehicles. Link: <https://www.vernalpools.me/big-night/>

Jessica also spoke about a school kids' project for the Homework Club at the Central School. Some of the ideas involve ways to greet and cheer seniors: small potted plants, goodie bags, cards, and more. Sheila suggested using drawings from the binders (Sheila will leave the binders with Nina at GCS) in response to kids' brainstorming about how to be a friend to our local seniors. The drawings and ideas in the binders might generate new ideas from the children. Hand drawn illustrations might be able to be used for an Age Friendly Georgetown brochure and/or poster that could be placed at various places around town.

Sharing Information about AFG: Sandy discovered serendipitously that therapists working through Chans Maine might be willing to give brochures to their clients here in Georgetown. Sandy will make a rough draft of ideas, using key points from our website. Contact information would be included. Send ideas for more to Sandy.

Broadband: In response to “how can we help with the Georgetown Broadband project” Tom McCandless suggested that job squad people be available for residents who cannot be on-site for their connection, or who don't feel comfortable meeting alone with the connection crew. Jim has discussed this with Carlos and he will advise how we might help as we approach the implementation phase. Another suggestion is to help share information about choosing and ordering routers as needed. The Broadband Team will be putting together recommendations in this area, and we can share with our extensive email distribution.

Shredding Event: Several people have inquired if we can hold another shredding event, to reprise our very successful one a couple years ago. Sandy will check with AARP, who supported the previous event. Karen will check with St Mary's in Bath to see if they are planning another event. **Post meeting note:** Sandy did talk with AARP and they are happy to work with us to have another shredding party, but it will have to be in the fall as they are not holding public events at this time.

Trekking: Jim spoke of possibility of holding some sort of trekking challenge for the coming season. We could issue mini-passports, set up a stamping station, and provide prizes. We could coordinate with Sarah Mancini, who is keen on involving kids in hiking our trails. A celebratory event at the Reid pavilion might be a good way to gather Trekkers.

Support for Reid State Park: Jim coordinated a group of eleven volunteers to shovel and sand the pathway and boardwalk leading down to the beach, as the park does not have



sufficient staff at this time to do this work. Several locals had expressed concern about the risk of falling due to ice and snow. Peggy said the clearing of the steps and boardwalk to the beach made a huge difference for her and others. Also, there have been a number of suggestions about establishing a “Friends of Reid State Park” group to provide assistance to the staff and provide other support. Jim has discussed on-going volunteer activities with the new Park Manager, Haylee Parsons, and will meet with her in the next couple weeks. Sandy also suggested that our local state government representatives might be engaged to support more funding for the state parks to allow sufficient levels of staffing.

Project Ideas

- Sandy suggested we get kids involved in the Shoreline cleanup event in September. We can contact folks like Nina, Sarah and Jessica to see how we could help with that.
- Joyce pointed out that it would be nice to be able to extend the snow removal activities beyond Reid, as there may be older or disabled residents who struggle with their walks and steps. While that is a very good idea, it is also a very challenging one. Just coordinating and accomplishing the Reid activity was a significant amount of work. If that’s extended to several residents, that would mean a concerted effort by a number of volunteers and a coordinator. However, it is not out of the realm of possibility and Jim will put it on the agenda for a fall meeting to see if it might be organized, at least on a trial basis.
- Social Interaction: The idea was put forward that we might try to organize outings for folks that might not be able to do certain things on their own. It might include going to a movie, having a picnic and walk at the beach, or going to the library. We will look at this more in the future.
- A suggestion was made that AFG might provide Historical Society membership funding to residents who can’t afford it, allowing them to get issues of the Tide. It was pointed out that there are free copies available at GHS and the Post Office.

Next meeting will be May 9th @4 pm, hopefully in person. Location TBD.