

ARPA Funding Advisory Committee

Monday, April 3, 7:00 PM

Holley Hall and Remote

Present: Alison DaBica, Mike Dash, Diane Cushman, Kris Perlee, Rob Rooker (PC), Helen Young (CC), Betsy Blair, Porter Knight; Ian Albinson, Valerie Capels, NEAT TV

Meeting Notes

#1 Review of Tier 2 Recommendations

Selectboard is also reviewing this list and hoping to fund some if they are able to.

Steps committee identified are noted below:

Trails/Parks

- Repair Memorial Park – Selectboard and Rec Club/Bristol Trail Network aware
- Trail Network upgrades, incl parking – no specific initiatives
- bike/walk trails – Mountain Bike Bristol (MoBB), BTN, and Bike/Walk Pedestrian committee are all continuing to work on. Suggest to MoBB Green Mountain Campground support
- South St River access - No plans at this time but Selectboard and BTN aware

Other recreation

- Outdoor dining – CORE has purchased picnic tables
- Yard waste/town compost – Ask Town Administrator to talk to R&L again to encourage them to take yard waste more often/more easily
- Farmers Market/Local Ag support/Community Garden – Bristol CORE moving ahead; Selectboard aware can use
- more pickleball courts – ask Rec Club to come to talk to town if want ARPA money to put in additional pickleball courts
- bike fleet – suggest to Meridith
- water fountain at town green – Suggest Meridith look into
- Little Free Library boxes – Alison will talk to Library; Ian will talk to Selectboard

Infrastructure

- upgrade financial systems and IT systems for town – some funds were allocated from the upcoming budget, Selectboard is working on this
- Improved community-wide internet/wifi – Suggest that selectboard/town administrator help spread the word about the free wifi in town
- updated cell service & broadband – ask Ian to work with Maple Broadband to come up with a way to get from people where the problems are?

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- pressure regulators in homes/offer low flow faucets – if Energy Committee has a proposal they should bring to grant writer or at least to the Town Administrator so Selectboard has . Also should promote availability of low flow aerators from state program (another “Did you know...” post!)
- Prayer Rock Safety - no initiatives at this time
- energy audits/improvements to town buildings (including library)
- park n ride at Mt Abe w solar panels – suggest to high school. There are 50% grants on publicly owned land. Possibly parking lot is too full/too well used to have availability, but this is out of town’s purview so we’ll suggest to high school
- Second road in/out of Mt Abe – share idea with school
- Little Free Pantry – share idea with Have a Heart Food Shelf

Housing – Kris and Rob will pass ideas to Planning Commission, encourage getting them incorporated into town plan

- buy/build mid range or starter homes then sell and use money for more
- renovate/invest to help seniors age in place and turn part of home to rental income or condo

Other

- Mental health/social worker for BPD – Selectboard and Police Chief
- electric school buses (work with school district and other towns ARPA \$) – share idea with school

#2 Recommend a regular Front Porch Forum post “Did you know...” to highlight/communicate about topics of interest to community that they often ask questions about, such as:

- Did you know... R&L does take yard waste (when/where/how/how much)
- Did you know... the High School pool is available to the public at these times in these circumstances
- Did you know... downtown Bristol has free wifi (where/how access)
- Etc

Suggest to Town Administrator and Selectboard

Adjourn