

April 19, 2022 Minutes and UPDATES

Please scan for **your name** (in bold and underlined) to be reminded of what you will be reporting about at our meeting next Tues., May 17, 12-Noon at the Hotel Floyd.

*** If you can join us for lunch, be sure to email Ellie & Jean so you will be part of the headcount to the caterer. ***

1.) GRANTS: **Kathleen Legg** has been searching for funding through foundations and grants.
a.) She is currently working to find businesses who would be interested in applying for a **\$1500 grant from the VA Tourism Corp.** to design and install more LOVE sculptures on the most visible properties around Floyd.

b.) **Jean Woods** will provide Kathleen with a budget and list any funding already received from private donors. Each **site manager** needs to provide Jean with an estimated budget per worksite. Jean agreed to send information on what has been spent to date to **Barbara Pleasant** to be counted as a donation/expense and to provide budget credibility. <<< Update: Is Barbara/ ___ FFP's Treasurer? >>> **Jean** will also continue looking for grants through VT's grant system, Summit.

2.) Town of Floyd PLANTER BOXES and "WELCOME TO FLOYD" Signs:

a.) **Barbara** worked with other volunteers to plant 64 pansies in the 8 planters around Town. Partnership for Floyd paid for/ reimbursed Barbara for the purchase of the plants (\$164.86.) The problem we had been facing is with the deer and smokers putting their trash in the planters. **Barbara and Andrew Morris** will be working to improve this as well as the brick planter boxes at Lineberry Park (which have a lot of material that is coming into bloom, a dead tree that needed to come out, and some Bermuda grass). Also as a member of the FFP Core Team, Andrew will keep us posted about the Town Budget, which is still in its first draft stages, but the Council seemed open to increasing the budget "for beautification."

Jane Cundiff will also ask Partnership for Floyd about sponsoring some colored plants.

b.) **Kamala** offered to check on the status of the planters at the Village Green which have been empty for the last two years. <<< Update: Thanks to Woody Crenshaw and "the Village Green staff," and especially Viron, the brick planters and the huge planter-urns have been filled with new plants. (Yay, Woody and staff!)

3.) FLOYD CENTER FOR THE ARTS: **Liz Mears** is currently working on a plan for a pollinator garden and plants on both sides of the main entry sidewalk. There are two other types of areas to work on, a bank and a drainage area. After the Mayfair event, **Jean and John Doyle** will be taking their tractor to the meadow area.

4.) OTHER NATIVE PLANTS PROJECTS:

a.) The Church of Christ Project: Thanks to **Ian Caton and Jean**, plus 12-15 volunteers planted 24000 flower plugs, the Church of Christ site is mostly planted now with trees and additional plants that arrived around the first of May.

b.) The Wall Residences Project: Thanks to **Kamala Bauers, Jean, Ian**, and many volunteers, the grass had already been removed so that on Sat., May 7, more volunteers were there to put into the ground a whole lot of perky live plants and seeds. <<< Update: Do we still need some straw to put over the seeds? Are the plants around the Wall Residences sign in or ready - just waiting for warmer weather? >>>

5.) The 613 E. Main St Project:

a.) **Jean** has been working with **Ian** to put in plants on the back side of the 613 Main St building (which is next to the _____? gas station).

b.) The Mural Project: Jean has also been working with FCHS student artist, Barclay Thomas who has already designed and ready to paint a **colorful mural** on all 3 sides of the building (Yay, the Town Council approved) illustrating Floyd's flowers, bees, butterflies and beauty "morning, noon and night.")

6.) FFP WEBSITE: **Joy Gardner** has been working with Paul Harris at Citizens on the website. **Barbara** agreed to write a simple write-up for the front of the website. **Kathleen** has some experience building websites with WordPress and offered to help upload photos once the site is ready. If **YOU** have photos to share you can send them to Kathleen at: Tourismdirector@visitfloydva.com or upload them to GoogleDrive at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1AGsIfkRxtmTNxSTF6Xk16WI54HUu9eZ0?usp=sharing>

7.) PRESS RELEASES:

a.) We need someone/ **YOU?** on the Core Team to send press releases to the local newspapers whenever possible, and include photos of people and FFP Projects. <<< <<< Did you see the Floyd Press article and photo of FFP volunteers in front of the Courthouse planting pansies in the Town Planter? Also Ian's presentation at the Library in January. BREAKING NEWS: Watch for **an article in the ROA Times on May 22** featuring FFP projects at the Church of Christ, the Walls Residences, and maybe at the FCarts. Thanks to ROA Time reporter, Su Clauson and Photographer, Matt, and to Jean for organizing this photo shoot. >>>

b.) We need someone/ **YOU?** to reach out to those who have posted a request on the FFP Facebook page <<< Have you checked out the FFP Facebook page?, it's awesome!!! >>> as well as those who made a request after having attended a FFP presentations (e.g. the presentation Ian gave at the Library in January.)

9.) OTHER Reports/ Updates as of May 17, 2022:

a.) LIBRARY, Joann Verostko re: PLANT SWAP ON SAT., MAY 21, __: __; Update re: Library Books re: plants; tri-fold distribution to which locations? (the Visitors' Center?; to the Chamber of Commerce?; to Floyd Mitchell, Pastor of the Church of Christ?; to Fred First for Sustain Floyd & The Farmers' Market; and _____?);

b.) FCHS Interns: **Brittany Quesenberry**: While at the **ACCE Volunteer Fair** at the FCHS, **Kamala Bauers and Jane Cundiff** recruited 7 students to help with FFP projects. (Yay, Kamala and Jane! Yay, ACEE!) **Ian** agreed to send info to Brittany about benches and bird houses for the Church of Christ, so that Brittany can send to Jean & Ian a budget for the materials; Ellie, Jane, Jean and others are working with Brittany to develop specifics for working with the ACCEE students (e.g. a Zoom meeting to "Welcome ACCEE students to FFP," and then each site manager/ lead person to set up the who, when & where for on the job training, keeping time sheets, etc.)

c.) MURAL at the School House Fabric: Update: **Kamala & Jean** (perhaps VT Engineering School will advise FFP and the owners of the retaining wall (who is not VDOT, but the owners of School House Fabrics) what can be done to repair and decorate it with a mural or ???)

d.) NRVRegional Commission/ VA Native Plants Initiative: **Nicole Hersch** re: FREE bare root plants to Floyd?; also re: help with SIGNAGE (e.g. "Floyd Flower Participant" signs for businesses: "Floyd VA is a Blooming Place to Bee" bumper stickers; _____?)

e.) Melissa Banks, re: Chamber of Commerce participants in FFP <<< See last paragraph in Minutes from Feb. 15-March 7, 2022. >>>

***The next Core Team Meeting will be on June ____, 12-Noon,
at the Hotel Floyd Conference Room.***