

SelectBoard July 9 2020 8am

Attending: John Ogden, Michael Jeffery, Steve Hall, Chrystal Cleary, Andrea Ogden, Mary English and Greg Eckhardt

Call to order 8:04 AM

Item #1- The Selectboard thanked Mary English for bringing forth the resolution for equal justice which prompted thoughtful discussion, and adding to the text carefully crafted language that the Board passed unanimously today:

“The Select Board of Landgrove, Vermont, joins cities and towns across the state to condemn the brutal killing of George Floyd, and the systemic racism of which it is emblematic. We believe history will see this as a defining moment, and we are compelled to speak in a unified voice to encourage self-education on the issues and town-wide dialogues from all viewpoints. A better understanding of racism can fuel meaningful action beyond the ballot box, such as support of local and legislative process for better policing and contributions of personal time and funds to organizations which support equality in justice, health care, education, employment or housing. We ask citizens of Landgrove and Vermont to join us as we help our communities strive for peace, healing and equal justice for all.”

The Board feels the impact of the resolution can be extended if it is posted to the Town website and to a local newspaper, perhaps VT Digger.

Item #2 - Roads: Steve is still finishing up the lengthy FEMA process, but Leurich Field looks amazing, and there are just a couple parts of roads that require regravelling that remain.

- Brook Road will be measured today to see if the bridge requested to be repaired by Mr Casey Rowley falls on the Class 3 or Class 4 portion of the road. Steve is waiting to hear back from Greg K. of VTrans about the classification and the Town's responsibility for maintenance of this little road. Perhaps it's designation is not sustainable and it should be reclassified in the future.

Item #3 - Greg Eckhardt updated the Board about improvements to Town land between the Old Cemetery and Leurich Field, in which a large marble block, donated by Monk Ogden, has been placed to serve as a Veteran's Memorial. It will feature a plaque dedicating the memorial to all Landgrove Veterans, past, present and future, and will be enhanced with a short path, contemplative bench looking at a view out over Leurich Field framed by two maple trees. Other plantings will include a half dozen lilac bushes to screen the trucks and sand from view and a new sugar maple at the corner to join the 200 year old sugar maples around the Old Cemetery. The Manchester VFW post has donated \$500 for the transport and placement of the marble monument, and an additional \$250 to support the plantings and improvements to the block. Greg is asking for clarity regarding funding the Memorial park creation and ongoing maintenance of the grounds, by way of an account within the Town or perhaps Cemetery Commission budgets?

The board is open to making a contribution toward closing the project when the final needs

are known, and the Cemetery Commission has some funding as well, so an appeal to the Cem Comm is warranted as well. Donations to the Memorial can be placed in the Cemetery Commissions account, and drawn from there as well, so a new separate account is not needed.

As this Town Land is improved, and the Sand/Trucks Barn is built somewhere else, it will need to be maintained and planned for, and perhaps at Town Meeting next spring the voters could be asked to create a kind of Parks Committee to oversee the non-cemetery Town lands such as Leurich, Memorial park, and the trail in Pitcher Forest and see that the work of creating these resources is maintained for enjoyment.

The SelectBoard also approved a request for permission for the Daisy Girl Scout Troop to place bluebird boxes around Leurich Field.

Item #4 - Andrea met with Auditors Tove and Liza on Monday to set out things to do going forward and march through the VLCT's audit list. No new names have come forth for the 3rd Auditor position yet.

Item #5 - Treasurer Andrea says this is usually the meeting where the Select Board sets the Tax rate, but we are still waiting for two things to happen: the Listers need to finalize the Grand List, and the state needs to set the education tax rate.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 AM