

**TO:** Mayor Angelo and Members of the Board of Trustees  
**FROM:** Reyana Jones, Historic Preservationist/Planner  
**DATE:** April 19, 2021  
**ITEM:** DISCUSSION / DIRECTION – LYONS COMMUNITY FARM PROJECT  
INFORMATION AND REQUEST

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ORDINANCE  
 MOTION/RESOLUTION  
 INFORMATION

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- I. **REQUEST OR ISSUE:** This is an agenda request from a nonprofit organization related to a proposed community garden and food forest on two buyout properties; they would like to ask the Board of Trustees for the Town's support of their project in several ways.
- II. **RECOMMENDED ACTION / NEXT STEPS:** The Board of Trustees should advise the Lyons Community Farm Project whether they would like to support the project's requests and discuss the plans presented; this guidance would allow the applicant to move forward with licensing the selected buyout properties.
- III. **FISCAL IMPACTS:** The following aspects of the Lyons Community Farm Project's requests would result in costs for the Town: installation of a new water tap or regularly filling a large water tank; assistance in removing a dead tree; and insuring two properties. Allowing the wholesale rate for water would also create a fiscal impact. However, by granting this access to water and other resources, the Lyons Community Farm Project could proceed with their application for lot licensure and assume the costs/time currently spent to maintain these buyout properties from the Town.
- IV. **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**  
The Lyons Community Farm Project is a nonprofit organization. Its members include: Vasi Smith, Adrean Kirk, Florine Valerie, Tyler Stellern, Carse Pustmueller, and Bob Brakenridge. They envision a project with two locations/goals, a traditional community garden and a food forest. They have identified two buyout property sites for their project: 233 Park St. and 315 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.

The DRBOP Land Use and Management Plan included a preferred site option for a community garden at 233 Park St./318 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. This site has an existing water tap for this

purpose. The Lyons Community Farm Project group would like to create a traditional community garden concept for this location, and they would like to ask the Board of Trustees for the wholesale water rate to support their project. A formal application for licensure has not yet been submitted for this site.

The Lyons Community Farm Project would also like to pursue a “food forest” concept, as described in their attached information document, at 315 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. There is no water tap at this site. This location was conceptualized in the DRBOP plan as part of an orchard. The Lyons Community Farm Project would like to ask the Board of Trustees to grant wholesale water rate for watering 315 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. and either to add a tap to this site to support the community food forest or assist with filling a large water tank on a regular basis.

Other requests for these parcels include: insurance of both lots by the Town; permission to till/prepare soil using animals; permission to install bee hives with a bear-detering solar electric fence (315 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.; bee-keeping as a use is not addressed in the municipal code); and assistance in removing a dead tree (315 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.).

The Lyons Community Farm Project has been working with Town Staff, including Floodplain Administrator Simonsen, Parks and Public Works Director Dave Cosgrove, and Historic Preservationist/Planner Yani Jones, to identify allowable uses in different flood hazard areas on different sites, to understand existing parks/trails plans, and to understand the lot licensing process. Depending on the outcome of this discussion, the applicant will need to modify their existing application to pursue lot licensure.

**V. LEGAL ISSUES:** None.

**VI. SUMMARY AND ALTERNATIVES:**

The Board of Trustees should:

- Discuss the proposal presented by the Lyons Community Farm Project
- Support or deny the requests for:
  - 315 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. (food forest)
    - Installation of a new water tap
      - Or assistance with filling a large water tank
    - Approval of bee-keeping use with a protective solar electric fence
    - Assistance in removing dead tree
  - Both 315 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. (food forest) and 233 Park St. (traditional community garden)
    - Wholesale water rate
    - Covering both properties under Town insurance
    - Approval of soil preparation using animals

**Attachments:**

1. Lyons Community Farm Project Description
2. Map of Proposed Lyons Community Farm Project Proposed Sites
3. Draft License App – 315 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.