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| Program/Area: | STEPS Quarterly RISERS: Community meeting to include PH&W, IPE, E&E Workgroup Reports |
| Meeting Purpose: | To share ideas, report on activities, and make decisions about projects that improve personal well-being physical environment and increase economic and educational opportunities in the towns of Covert, Lodi, Ovid, & Romulus. |
| Meeting Date: | April 18, 2022 |
| Meeting Time: | 6:30pm |
| Meeting Location: | 1425 Prospect St, Willard, NY 14588 (Romulus Town Hall) |
| Workgroup Leaders: | Ave Bauder (E&E); Karel Titus (IPE); Phyllis Motill (PH&W) |
| Attendees: | Phyllis Motill, Karel Titus, Janet Lynch, Tom Bouchard, Nancy Jones, Connie Carmona, Peg Brown, Sarah Jones, Erica Herman, Jean Currie. STEPS Staff Theresa Lahr, Kim Pollack, and Jan Quarles. (Ave Bauder was not present.) |
| Minutes Issued By: | Jan Quarles, STEPS |

| **Events and Projects of 3 Working Groups** | **Event on:** | **Reported by:** |
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| PERSONAL HEALTH & WELLNESS  TOUR of Big-M to help shoppers save money  Home Safety Training at STEPS Office  Weekly Walking Group at the Ovid school track  4 Cooking Classes (Free; “mostly plant-based")   * The Good Life Farm / FLX Cider House * Lodi Fire Hall * Romulus Central School * Ovid Library   Guided Bird Walk @ Sampson State Park  Olde Home Days, Interlaken  Ovid Strawberry Festival  Emergency First Aid Preparedness Training  at Mason’s Lodge, Interlaken | Thurs, 4/21 (morning)  Mon, 4/25 (2-3 pm)  Tuesdays (6pm)   * 4/26 (6-8pm) * 5/07 (10a-12n) * 5/21 (10a-12n) * 5/28 (10a-12n)   Sat, 6/04 (10 am)  Sat, 6/11  Sat, 6/18 (8a-3p)  Mon, 6/20 (6-9 pm) Tentative – await confirmation | Phyllis Motill |
| **IMPROVING PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT**  “Be Part of our Climate Smart Community:  A Lake Friendly Event” at Lodi Library  Swap Day  Milk Giveaways, Lodi Food Pantry | Sat, 5/7 (11a-1p)  Sat, 5/21  Every Saturday | Karel Titus |
| **IMPROVING ECONOMICS & EDUCATION**  STEPS approved 2 more Micro-E grants (1 Primary: 1 Secondary).  New STEPS RHPPs (Resident Health Promotion Projects) include pill bottle collections; cooking classes; pollinator-friendly landscaping at Lodi community garden; collaboration on Lake-Friendly event in Lodi on 5/7; emergency First Aid; bird walk. |  | Kim Pollack  Theresa Lahr |
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| **More reports and discussions from Working Groups and attendees:** |
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| Phyllis Motill (PH&W) said that the big concerns now are mental health and home safety. She introduced Sarah Jones, who was present at our meeting, and strongly recommended we call her as needed.  Sarah is a Community Health Navigator who connects people to resources that can help meet their basic needs, including access to affordable housing, fresh produce & other food, clothing & household goods, transportation, help with medical bills, mental health services, and more. Sarah may be reached at (607) 368-2678.  Karel Titus (IPE) led a discussion on the Willard Asylum property, owned by NYS. Tom Bouchard said the Town of Romulus Historical Society applied to the Preservation League to be considered as Seven to Save recognition. Karel also reported that:   * The big grant for “Creating Healthy Schools and Communities” has been granted but the Director’s position has remained vacant for a year. * Community solar is coming, with Jenny & Rob leading the initiative. * Lodi applied for a grant for 2 charging stations: 1 at Lodi Library, 1 at Town Hall. * Lodi Town Hall may become a demo for heat pumps. * The Compost Group is looking into how to do public education on compost; trying to find a drop-off site; and some are visiting other sites. Erica suggested visiting the composting operation in Montour Falls. * Interlaken Library created an interactive online calendar. They welcome all community partners to post events on it.   Tom Bouchard reported that the Lions Club raised $1,970 since July from redeemable cans & bottles in the blue bin behind the Big M. The funds go to Pathway House.  Theresa Lahr announced that Phase V of STEPS grant was approved at the program committee level, now awaiting the Greater Rochester Health Foundations full board approval on Thursday 4/21. Fingers crossed!  Connie Carmona would like to initiate an educational event about coffee – raising issues of doing Fair Trade of imported goods, while creating jobs here with local roasting and marketing. She could lead a tour of her new Roastery. She also announced breakfast sandwiches will be provided at her shop, the Seneca Coffee House in downtown Ovid, which is open seven day a week beginning 5/1 Sun-Fri 8-2: Sat 8-3.  Erica Herman introduced HeatSmart FLX South, which connects residents to heating, cooling, and energy efficient projects including insulation, heat pumps, and heat pump water heaters. The deadline for HEAP applications is 4/29. HEAP provides up to $20K for weatherization. Erica may be reached at (607) 535-7161 x 3223 or [<heatsmartflxs@cornell.edu](mailto:<heatsmartflxs@cornell.edu)> . Their website is [www.heatsmartflxsouth.org/contact-us](http://www.heatsmartflxsouth.org/contact-us).  Jean Currie encouraged everyone to make use of our public libraries and pointed out that the FLX library system connects 33 of them.  Everyone was very appreciative of Connie’s delicious savory, sweet and healthy refreshments, and of Tom Bouchard for providing the venue.  The next RISERS meeting will be held on July 18 (6:30-8:00 pm). All are welcome! |