**2016 Community Initiatives Committee Report**

**August 4, 2016**

The Community Initiatives Committee (CIC) works closely with the Greensboro Selectboard and other local government committees and collaborates with local organizations to enhance our community by conceiving and supporting various initiatives in Greensboro.

Over the past year, the CIC has continued to work with the Selectboard to monitor the transformation and raise awareness of the **Willey Beach Park**, a public recreation park for the community that has a beautiful stretch of undeveloped wooded lakeshore. The park can be accessed both from its parking lot located off of Wilson Street, which is marked by a sign, as well as on foot by crossing over the dam from the Public Beach.

The CIC has also continued to support and monitor the upkeep and enjoyment of the **Village Green**, the lawn directly across from Willey’s Store. Most recently, the CIC was tasked with designing a sign for the Village Green to welcome residents and visitors alike to the heart of Town. The CIC encourages people to submit ideas to make various spaces around Greensboro more inviting, enjoyable, and functional.

The CIC is continuing its **Bike/Ped** initiative and is looking to partner with the non-profit Localmotion to develop implementable changes to improve walk-ability and bike-ability in and around town. For more information on this project or to help make this initiative a reality, please contact me. We are looking for motivated individuals to help propel this initiative forward and to collaborate with Localmotion and other organizations around the NEK.

Since the start of 2016, the CIC has spearheaded an Ad Hoc committee to advise and support the Greensboro Planning Commission (GPC) in its revision process of the **Town Plan**. The CIC has provided input and recommendations to the GPC throughout the community survey process and looks forward to providing feedback on the new Town Plan as it begins to take shape, working with the GPC and the Selectboard to include some long-term planning visions for development, conservation, and community culture.

The CIC continues to work toward creating a **Maker Space** in Greensboro. A Maker Space is a communal learning environment that encourages, inspires, and allows children, teens, adults, and families to tinker, design, experience, and create. A Maker Space would allow people to share tools, equipment, expertise, and interest in the experience and creation of new things and talents. The CIC is currently working with the Greensboro Free Library to foster Maker workshops for children and is gathering a motivated team of individuals and organizations to make a Maker Space a reality. If you wish to join our team, please let me know or contact Emily Purdy.

For anyone interested in helping with any of these existing initiatives or generating new ones, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi Ranz-Schleifer, Chair