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**Summer-Fall  
2019  
NEWSLETTER**

## **WCLT PURCHASES A SECOND HOME**

Thanks to the generosity of a grant from the Sewall Foundation, WCLT has purchased a single-family home at 3 Moor Street in Waterville's South End. Keeping with its promise to focus on the neighborhoods of the South End, WCLT will renovate this home and offer it to a work-force family seeking to own a home. Studies continue to show that transitioning from renting to owning a home is the keystone of building wealth and economic safety for families.



The three-bedroom late 19th-century home requires extensive renovations, including updating interior surfaces and exterior repair. A picture of the house from the late 1930's (below) shows that there was a porch that wrapped around the side to the front entry. Although the front entry door remains, WCLT may develop a primary entry on the other side of the house that will be near a newly developed parking area. The side porch, shown in the 1930 photo, lost its roof perhaps due to a fire at the abutting property. WCLT will rebuild the porch for a private and shady place to sit.

The house sits on a double lot with room for gardens, parking, and a children's play area. A shed in the rear may be retained, if it is structurally sound with only roof repairs needed. The house has a full basement, including under the shed. The Moor Street children's playground is directly across the street and the Moor Street community vegetable garden is just down the street!



Work should begin in the fall to clean out the interior and to complete some exterior work to ensure that the structure is weatherized for the winter. In November or December major interior renovations will commence. WCLT expects to open the house for tours during its renovation to encourage interested families to view the home. We'll be looking for volunteers to help with the home renovations as well as putting work out to bid. Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering or wish to be on our bid list. (watervilleclt@gmail.com)

# Kennebec River Community Garden Park

Thanks to the generosity of our members, the Sewall Foundation, and the Maine Community Foundation, we have made much progress on our Water Street community garden park in the South End. We have long dreamed of developing a garden park and nature preserve on the land we purchased in 2017. We purchased 2 acres from a private owner and another small parcel from the City of Waterville ( under an agreement with the South End Neighborhood Association). Both properties had derelict homes that required demolition.

By removing the structures at 226 and 232 Water Street, we opened up seasonal views of the Kennebec River for the park. We plan to expand the view for all seasons, by trimming, removing invasive plants, and encouraging native plants to increase bird breeding habitat.

The upper portion of the park has now been leveled, a handicapped parking place developed, and patio pavers have been set. Benches, garden boxes, a water spigot, a community kiosk, fencing, and a pergola will be developed as donations are received. We hope that the flower garden will receive donated plants from all who wish to remember family, friends and events with flowers. We will be planting fruit trees along our northern border and we are considering a low bush blueberry field on a portion of the land.

We hope that our neighbors will enjoy the park!



Director Allan Saul on the Newly Completed Patio



Conceptual Plan of WCLT Community Garden and Park

## Notice to our Members, Friends and Neighbors!

The WCLT Annual Meeting will be held September 29th at 3:00 PM—3:30 PM at our Kennebec River park. We'll raise a (cider) toast to the future of the park ! The Annual Meeting will recap our work since 2013 and our goals for the future. We hope you all can make it!

## THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTING FOUNDATIONS

- ◇ KAY E DOPP FUND OF THE MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
- ◇ DONOR ADVISED FUNDS OF THE MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
- ◇ ELMINA B. SEWALL FOUNDATION

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