

Hello Richmond Town Forest Steering Committee,

I am interested becoming a committee member and joining in the process of facilitating the creation of a town forest that reflects the values and vision of the people of Richmond. As someone who values and respects the perspectives of all and would work to represent them, I would be excited to contribute energy towards creating a sustainable framework for this space. I have a background as an ecologist and educator, and an understanding of the fragility of ecosystems and their need for connectivity. I also know there are many traditional uses of this forest that should be honored where possible. My masters work was in forest restoration in the central Appalachians, thus I bring an understanding of different dynamics and factors that impact forest health in a landscape characterized by often fragmented forest blocks. I also have a passion for playing and working in the woods, on foot, bike, skis, as a fledgling hunter, volunteer, and more. Having followed the process thus far, I see the different visions for the town forest as largely compatible and would be excited for the challenge of bridging the real or perceived “gap of understanding” between the different user groups. I would look forward to working with, representing, and learning from the many members of the community who have an interest in the process. I would be an active participant in meetings, committee work, organizing, and volunteering on the ground. Finally, as a Richmond resident, I feel a deep personal connection to the landscapes of this valley, and am eager to work with a team to help conserve a piece of it for current and future generations.

Thank you for your consideration,

Chase Rosenberg