

Three Ways to Become Involved with Community Projects

This is an open invitation to Arthur residents who would like to become involved with some exciting and upcoming community projects.

There are three areas of involvement for you to consider. Some of these projects will be more involved and long-term than others.

A short-term commitment would be to serve on a steering committee to consider ideas about ways to use the Village-owned property just south of the railroad on the west side of Vine Street. The Village has enlisted the help of an engineering firm who will compile our ideas into a vision of how to turn that vacant area into something useful and attractive. Maybe this area will have a sign to welcome people to Arthur's downtown; maybe it will just provide additional parking; maybe it will become a "plaza" with historical information for visitors. The use of this area is maybe only limited by the imagination of the steering committee.

If you are willing to commit to a medium level of involvement, I am seeking 10-15 dedicated individuals to serve on a Mayor's Advisory Committee. This group will meet approximately ten times during 2018 to consider all sorts of ideas about ways we can make Arthur an even more inviting place to live and work. Members of this Advisory Committee should be enthusiastic and think outside-the-box. This group will work through a list of goals and visions and look for new ways, improved ways, and even well-established-but-sometimes-overlooked ways to accomplish those goals and visions.

A longer term involvement would be to become a member of Arthur's Sesquicentennial Committee. Arthur won't be celebrating that event until 2023, but it may take five years to prepare well for it. Fifty years ago plans were made well in advance of Arthur's Centennial Celebration, which included the building of the current Welcome Center. There are so many ways we can make Arthur's 150th Anniversary special if we get to work on it early.

So, there you have it, three ways you can become involved with your community in something that should be fun and exciting. Become a member of the Steering Committee, a member of the Mayor's Advisory Committee, or a member of the Sesquicentennial Committee.

There will be a public meeting where you can get more information about these projects at the Community Building on Tuesday, September 26 at 6:30 PM. I hope many of you will attend.

Rod Randall, Village President