

Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee  
and Climate Smart Community Task Force  
Meeting Minutes, December 6, 2021

via Zoom

Attendees: Sarah Smiley, Nana Welch, Dan Convissor, Dave Avrin, Nicholas Kaufman, Francois Rjeili, Beverly Jansen, Kirsten McLaughlin

1. Updates

a. GHG Inventory - Sarah - met with new head of DPW, Kevin Smith and Village Administrator Anthony Giaccio. They are putting together the information about the village vehicle fleet. Sarah is looking into utility data and vehicle miles traveled for the village (via the county). Anthony Giaccio will provide the village utility information to Sarah.

b. Idling issue - Sarah - report back from meeting with DPW and Village Administrator - Sarah - asked Anthony Giaccio and Kevin Smith if he had any insight into the issue or a way to decrease idling - they agreed that they would need to start enforcing the policy. Will start with a written reminder followed by verbal reminders. Start date TBD.

c. LED streetlights letter - Dan and Karen Vastola working on letter to move implantation ahead. A draft will be distributed soon. All streetlights should be switched to LED at one time vs. as needed. They will look into the effects of LEDs (brightness etc) on birds and if that is a concern.

d. Hazard Mitigation Plan and Cooling Centers (CSC actions which we are documenting) - Kirsten - will follow up with Anthony Giaccio to see if we can get the last few points for the cooling centers. The HMP is a large plan that is largely in place but missing a few details. Once the details are nailed down, we should be able to get points for these actions.

e. Waste Reduction Education Campaign - Nick - he has a few people involved and the club will be meeting next week Tuesday. They are working now to get more water fountains that encourage reusability at the school. Would like to focus on composting and food scraps - he will bring it up at the next meeting with the students and faculty member(s). He looked at what they are doing in Scarsdale and thinks they would be easy changes to make here (compostable flatware, and bags etc).

2. Food Waste Recycling grant - Dan - followed up - we got the grant - the deadline for performance is the end of 2022. We can get an extension if needed. Key components of budget - graphic design, translation, web page, printing, institutional outreach (to restaurants etc), newspaper advertisements, recycling guide, promotion of events, starter kits (countertop pail and storage bin). Also promote backyard composting. Focus on direct mailing to each household with recycling guide. Brainstorm potential locations for having multiple drop-off locations in Sleepy Hollow. Beverly will work on this with Dan.

3. SHEAC / CSC committee structure - Sarah - Joint Committee (and keep reappointments) or separate. Sarah and Dan will co-chair both committees. There will be officially two committees but will merge the meetings together to account for overlap.

4. 2022 Priorities - presenting to the Board in January. Final topics TBD.

a. Food scraps - make it more local to Sleepy Hollow

b. Climate Action Plan - Sarah - to start after GHG inventory. We will find out

this month if we get the grant. Should it be pursued this year? Carbon reduction goals, community engagement, focus groups, plan of action to educate community on GHG reduction and a plan on how to achieve the reductions.

c. Complete Streets Policy - Dan - is the village complying with the policy?

d. Unfinished business - items from 2021 that may still be open items on the list

e. Tree Planting - Francois - there is a subcommittee working to rejuvenate the tree planting in the village. He thinks SHEAC would be good to supplement the tree subcommittee. As an aside, the tree code is having a hearing Dec 7th.

f. Climate Smart Community points

g. Healthy Yards - Dave