

Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, December 12, 2016

Sleepy Hollow Village Hall

Attendees: Dave Avrin, Dan Convissor, Claire Davis, Beverly Jansen, Bhavya Reddy (Chair), Francois Rjeili, Glenn Rosenbloom (BOT Liaison), Martin Smolin
Guest: Anne White

1. Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) -

a. The CCA program is an off-shoot of Sustainable Westchester to which Sleepy Hollow belongs. It is a non-profit program unlike ESCOs which are currently the only alternative here to Con Ed.

b. Only existing Con Ed customers who use Con Ed as their energy supply company will be affected if the village adopts CCA. Anyone with an existing ESCO contract would not be eligible until their contract expired, and then they would have the option of continuing with the ESCO or switching to CCA.

c. The concern about opt-out vs opt-in was discussed. It was pointed out that the majority of today's customers contract with Con Ed and also must opt-out if they want to switch to an ESCO. So the CCA opt-out condition would be no different than what Con Ed customers are subject to today.

d. Should the village decide to participate in CCA, pre- and post- outreach and education must be incorporated into any resolution the village adopts to make sure consumers know they can opt-out.

e. The "green option" would facilitate the leveraging of funds by Sustainable Westchester to further encourage sustainable energy use throughout the county.

f. A motion that the EAC recommend Sleepy Hollow's participation in the CCA program, specifically the "green option," was made by Claire and seconded by Beverly. It was further moved that Bhavya present our recommendations to the BOT in January if possible. The motion was approved unanimously.

g. It was agreed that the rate comparison table we were provided is not easy to understand, and we should ask Sustainable Westchester for a better/more comprehensible explanation of comparable rates before Bhavya presents to the BOT.

2. 2017 EAC Calendar a. It was decided that our January meeting will be held on Tuesday January 3rd since Village Hall will be closed on Monday January 2nd and other dates were more inconvenient.

b. It was agreed that we need to schedule and plan for the following annual events in 2017:

Riversweep - Saturday May 6th

Eco-Fair - possibly first Saturday in October

c. It was suggested that we schedule another EAC meeting at Kendal in early 2017. It was agreed that Martin would try to reserve a meeting room there for our regular meeting of Monday March 6th.

d. The scheduling of a Walking Audit, along a yet to be determined route within the inner village, was discussed, and it was agreed that a date at the beginning of June (from June 6th to June 10th) be selected. It was further agreed that Anthony Giaccio be consulted as to the best date. The purpose of the Audit would be to recommend improvements to facilitate safer, more pedestrian friendly streets and

sidewalks. The Walking Audit route would not include intersections already studied and slated for improvements by the village. Glenn suggested that Trustee Sandra Spiro be notified of the date in time for a notice to go into the village news bulletin.

e. Glenn urged the EAC to set a limited number of priorities for 2017 and assess our progress on each item at every meeting. It was agreed that the January 3rd agenda would include a recap of 2016 achievements and the setting of goals/priorities for 2017.

3. Public Recycling Cans

a. Following the placement of new trash and recycling receptacles in Tarrytown, this matter was discussed at our August meeting when it was agreed that the EAC should recommend the placement of recycling receptacles in village parks and throughout the business district. Due to vacation commitments, along with the need to make a timely response to the East Parcel DEIS, action on this item was postponed for several months and finally added to the December agenda.

b. Glenn reported that in general village recycling tonnage is high. He further stated that establishment of public recycling bins was something that the BOT was likely to be very supportive of as new trash bins are needed anyway, and the BOT is currently discussing how to make the business district more attractive. He urged us to move forward with a recommendation asap to the BOT before they authorize the purchase of new bins.

c. It was agreed that new receptacles must be attractive, but also should be language neutral (perhaps using symbols, not just words as in Tarrytown). Pros and cons of an open can top for drop down trash vs cans with covers or barriers that protect against adverse weather were discussed. It was further agreed that we should probably meet with Anthony Giaccio and Richie Gross for their input and also research additional receptacle styles before making a recommendation. Martin volunteered to forward some photos of receptacles from other places.

4. Joint Trails Committee As a follow-up to the recommendations in the Scenic Hudson Regional Trails Strategy report, the BOT has adopted a resolution authorizing Sleepy Hollow's participation on a joint trails committee to address implementation (along with reps from Tarrytown and County agencies). Having served as a member of the trails committee that produced the trails strategy report, Claire has been invited to serve as a representative of the EAC on the follow-up committee.

5. Sidewalk Petition Claire reported that there are 49 signatures so far on a petition to construct a sidewalk along the HS/Middle School/ John Paulding campuses. Almost all of the signatures were obtained at the Oct 1st Eco-Fair. It was agreed to continue with the petition, and Claire asked if any EAC members could assist in circulating it; Beverly took one for her church, and Martin took one for Kendal. Possible objection to sidewalk construction by the Superintendent of Schools could not be verified by the time of this meeting, but will be followed up asap by Claire. Glenn explained that construction of the subject sidewalk would not be a priority for the BOT in 2017. However, it was pointed out that the sidewalk issue has been on the EAC agenda practically since its inception, and it was agreed that the EAC would continue to promote this project for the time being.

6. Other reports and announcements Glenn announced a 12/13 Public Hearing on a proposed 25 mph speed limit on streets in certain village neighborhoods, and a 12/19 LDC meeting to present an update on the East Parcel. All EAC members were invited to attend if possible. Dan provided an update on the Rte 9 Corridor stating that an RFP had been sent out to solicit proposals for bike/ped improvements along Route 9 from Sleepy Hollow to Hastings-on-Hudson. Dan also

reported on Van Tassel/Pocantico Ave crosswalk at Morse School stating Village Trustees had gone out and observed activity in the vicinity of the subject crosswalk and planned to meet with the Principal of Morse School. A public hearing on proposed improvements for the crosswalk would be scheduled shortly.