

Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes, June 5, 2017

Location: Village Hall

Attendees: Claire, Dan, Martin, Francois

Absent: Beverly

Guest: Anne White

Meeting Chair: Dave

Meeting Opened: 7:05 pm

Approval of Minutes for May

Minutes were approved electronically.

#### Walkability Workshop

June 10th is the date for the inner village Walkability Workshop and Tour starting at Village Hall.

Claire, Dan and Francois will attend. Publicity for the workshop has been very good. Anthony and several Trustees are expected to attend, as well as a representative from the Village DPW. There was a short discussion of what Claire and Dan have done to prepare for the workshop and their expected outcome.

#### CCA Update

Claire and Dave met recently with Glenn R and Anthony G to discuss a number of items including CCA. Glenn encouraged SHEAC to move forward with its support of the CCA program. The main BOT questions continue to be: What is the extent of support by other municipalities in Westchester for the program? How well has it worked in other municipalities? What are expected costs/benefits to the Village residents? How will education/outreach be conducted for the Village residents?

SHEAC supports village participation in this program and agreed by vote to take one more try at answering the BOT's questions. Claire agreed to take the lead in this issue. Dan and Dave agreed to help in the effort.

#### Route 9

Dan led a discussion of improvements to two Broadway intersections. NYSDOT and the Village have been in discussion for several years about needed pedestrian safety improvements to these sites.

Dan has identified several suggested improvements to the current "plans". It was agreed that Dan would revise/modify his proposal, taking into account the comments from the meeting, and send it out to the committee for review. It was further agreed that we would try to arrive at a consensus electronically so that a presentation to the BOT on behalf of SHEAC could be made ASAP.

Dan also provided a progress report on the Route 9 Active Transportation Plan. The goal of this plan is to improve walking/biking from Hastings-on-Hudson to Sleepy Hollow. Public meetings on the plan have been set for June 15 (Hastings-on-Hudson) and June 17 (Tarrytown, Warner Library, 1-3pm).

#### Recycling Update

Claire sent Richie Gross a thank you note for installation of recycling containers on Beekman Ave.

Per Anthony and Glenn, the village will be expanding the recycling containers in village parks this summer.

Glenn requested that Anthony meet with Richie G. to come up with a plan (including design standards and locations) for recycling in all village public spaces.

There remains some confusion about the residential recycling program, particularly what to do with milk containers. Glenn suggested that SHEAC do an article in the fall Village newsletter about recycling. Dan suggested sending out the Westchester recycling flyer to all village residents as part to the DPW announcement about a change in residential bulk pick-up.

For the present, Dan will send Dave a copy of the recycling flyer. Dave will contact Anthony and suggest that this flyer be sent along with the bulk pick-up notification.

#### Invasive Exotic Species

Glenn is seeking SHEAC recommendations for a Village "no plant" policy. NY State has established a list of invasive plants of concern and list of plants that are prohibited from sale by commercial vendors.

Per Francois, the village passed a resolution several years ago prohibiting the planting of non-native trees and shrubs on village public property. The village ordinance pertains to village property only and the proposed friendly ways for residents to better identify invasive and or non-invasive plants is for informative and suggestive purposes only.

Mount Pleasant has compiled a good list of native plants that are suggested for use in this area. The Mount Pleasant information also identifies exotic invasive plants that are of concern. Claire has posted this list on the SHEAC website.

Francois and Dave agreed to work on ways to get this information to Village residents in a user friendly way. The thought is that most residents would want to comply with doing the right thing plantwise, but need to have a way to more easily access information.

#### Fremont Pond

Francois provided a brief history of the management of Fremont Pond. The pond suffers from chronic algae blooms. Various management efforts have been tried in the past (algaecide, weed eating fish, dredging).

Currently the village has funded an engineering study to provide recommendations for future management of the pond.

SHEAC agreed by vote to participate in helping to determine future management of Fremont Pond. Francois and Dave volunteered to take the lead in this effort.

#### Joint Trail Committee Update

Claire provided an update of the progress of this committee. Both she and Dan are on the committee, as are two other representatives from Sleepy Hollow (Chris Cauley and JP Laterell).

Joint Trails Committee is a collaboration between Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown to pursue ways to complete Riverwalk and better connect all the local trail systems. The committee was formed through the initiative of Scenic Hudson, based on a recommendation in their Trails Strategy Report adopted by both villages, and is chaired by Scenic Hudson staffer Amy Kacala.

The committee has met twice, reviewed all the recommendations in the aforementioned report, and whittled down the list to three focus areas: improved street crossings, signage and right of way along Old Croton Aqueduct Trail, development of a pedestrian "commute route" between the two villages, and designing a website for mobile phone users to access local trail maps.

A report has been completed and the recommendations have been adopted by both Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow. A copy of the report can be found on the Scenic Hudson website.

#### Other Business

Martin announced that effective immediately he will be resigning from his position as a Committee member of SHEAC. We thank Martin for his past work to support the Committee and wish him well. Martin indicated that he will try to remain connected to SHEAC as a volunteer.

Committee Vacancy - Anne made a suggestion for a new committee member. Committee members asked that this person be asked to attend our August meeting as an observer.

Carbon Taxing Presentation - Dan has been contacted by Sustainable Westchester with a request that SHEAC co-sponsor their upcoming public presentation in Tarrytown on carbon taxing. SHEAC approved this request by vote. Dan will notify Sustainable Westchester.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 7th at 7:00 pm.

July Meeting is cancelled

September meeting will most likely take place on September 11th

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Dave A.