

Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, June 4, 2018

Location: Village Hall

Attendees: Dave Avrin, Dan Convisser, Claire Davis, Melanie Dupuis and Francois Rjeili,
Absent: Beverly Jansen and Nana Welch
Guest: Maureen Fleming

Meeting Chair: Dave Avrin
Meeting Opened: 7:10 pm

Approval of Minutes
Minutes of last meeting were approved.

CCA Update - Claire

Good news – local law passed. Jenna, from Westchester Power, presented the village with their standard contract which is still under review. We were hoping that it could be implemented by July, otherwise the alternative option is to wait until December. Trustee Glenn Rosenbloom thought that there would be no need for a future meeting, but Claire said Mayor Wray suggested calling for a public outreach session which is scheduled for Monday June 11th at 7 pm at Village Hall. We hope it will be well attended considering the short notice.

Fremont Pond Stakeholders Committee/Watershed Protection - Dave

Dave said the Fremont Pond committee met on the 30th, and it was well attended. There is certainly more work to be done and there is a need for better communication to inform/educate the public, especially now that the mission to clean up and beautify the pond and make it a resource for recreation has been defined. Dave believes the May 19th kayak lesson was cancelled because of lack of advertising, case in point.

The Pond Committee has to also work on several initiatives with partners like the Board of Education, which owns Peabody Field and the outdoor classroom, and that makes things a bit more complicated. Some of these initiatives could be a rain garden approach, the use of chemical free practices and labeling the storm drains to bring awareness of misuse to the public.

Another initiative, which Jessica Fox has started, is to circulate a petition to encourage the Village, SH Cemetery and Phelps Hospital in addition to the 2 manors to practice chemical free landscaping on their properties. The petition has upward of a 100 signatures so far.

Dave made a motion requesting that the EAC supports this endeavor and recommends those practices/initiatives (using the items identified by the petition) to The Board of Trustees –
Motion passed unanimously.

Walkability Report Implementation Update - Claire

Claire set up a meeting on Thursday June 14th with the coordinating committee including Trustee Leavy to implement the pilot project and to take further steps.

Route 9 Projects Updates - Dan

Dan finalized the documents and circulated to the trustees.
Dan and David Hodgson will attend the BOT meeting to present their recommendations independently.

Climate Smart Communities Update - Nana

No report - Nana is absent.
Nana will report on this at the next meeting.

Trails Committee - Claire

Claire spoke with Amy Kacala from Scenic Hudson who got in touch with Anthony Giaccio to discuss whether a bike lane would be feasible between Edge on Hudson and Tarrytown's proposed "commute route" to the train station. The discussion was productive. It included support for filing a Grant Application to cover design for a bike lane, a pedestrian sidewalk and shuttle bus connections to both train stations.

New Business:

Sleepy Hollow Comprehensive Plan - Dave

BFJ Planning was the Lead consultant.

The meeting which took place on May 31 at the Senior Center was well attended.

Input from members of the community, which is made of residents, property owners, village staff, community organizations and others, is critical to developing a Comprehensive plan.

The community engagement strategy includes a variety of tools to engage and involve local stakeholders or residents and community leaders, like: Steering Committees which will meet monthly, Public Workshops like this one, Focus Groups, Online Tools, etc.

Dave feels that this is an important topic and should remain on the agenda so various participants at different committees could report on its development going forward.

Next meeting, which will have a round table format, will be on Thursday, June 14th 7 pm at the Senior Ctr.

Composting Collection in the Village - Maureen (guest)

Maureen's correspondence with Claire regarding composting in the village brought to the EAC a whole new topic of interest. A few other neighboring villages have already implemented a similar project.

Ideas were tossed around, but we all concluded that we need more research and education on this subject. Melanie, who happened to personally know some people who are already involved in this or have knowledge of composting, offered to invite them to attend our meeting in the future to further educate us on this topic.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Monday July 2nd at 7pm.

No meeting in August.

Next meeting after that is scheduled for September 10th at 7pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.