

Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, December 3, 2018

Attendees: Dave Avrin, Claire Davis, Dan Convissor, Francois Rjeili, Melanie DuPuis, Nana Welch, Glenn Rosenbloom (Trustee)
Absent: Beverly Jansen
Guests: Allie Granger, Jessica Fox, Sarah Smiley

1. Watershed Protection:

- a. Freemont Pond Task Force is putting together a sign with details on how to take care of the pond. Will be finished and ready to put by the pond soon.
- b. Task Force has tentatively identified a date, March 16th for a Healthy Yard Forum
 - i. At the Senior Center
 - ii. Speakers and Q&A
 - iii. Need to figure out a budget and funding
- c. Medallions: Anthony has 140 and there are around 450 drains. Requires a special adhesive that is labor-intensive. Glenn will look to see if Village can cover these costs. Claire: Medallion grant was turned down because DEC wanted it to have a lot more of an educational component
- d. Pesticide petition: Jessica Fox started a petition several months ago to ask the Village to stop using pesticides. Over 150 signatures. Drafted a resolution to present to BOT for implementation of sustainable landscaping practices, specifically to stop the use of pesticides and adopt toxic pest controls on Village owned property. Jessica included documentation from Bedford supporting sustainable lawn care.
Discussion as to whether we should wait for comprehensive plan or put resolution before Board sooner
 - i. Committee agreed that a resolution was appropriate now
 - ii. Jessica asked whether resolution should include fertilizers
 - iii. Committee: Yes
 - iv. Glenn: Resolution should contain more supporting facts/reasons
 - v. Dave made a motion to approve the draft resolution in spirit and Claire will work with Jessica on the final draft of the resolutionMotion seconded by Melanie and approved unanimously

2. Walkability Report Implementation Update - Dan and Claire

- a. Pilot plan at Pocantico and Beekman a success
 - i. John Leavy very helpful in getting it done - Thank You
 - ii. Dan Convissor. very helpful in getting out flyers and asked people to fill out survey forms - Thank you
 - iii. Dan and Claire talked to Tijuana proprietor who agreed that the intersection is not safe
 - iv. Beverly and Claire surveyed pedestrians and one business owner on Saturday
 - v. Dan also spoke to crossing guards who were favorable
 - vi. Results:
 1. 3/4 of survey takers feel safer with the demonstration project
 2. 2/3 of survey takers want to make it permanent
 - vii. Committee proposed recommending to BOT that the pilot design be made semi-permanent using flexible posts.
 - viii. Village plans to redo the sidewalks on Beekman Ave, and Committee agreed this is a good time to incorporate the pilot design into new sidewalk design

3. Climate Smart Community Update:

Nana reported that she had received documents regarding adoption of CCA and had uploaded them to the DEC Website. But it's not clear that we're going to get credit for it because it pertains more to residences than government utility use. Melanie

introduced Allie Granger, a Pace U intern who is currently working on gathering CSC docs for Pleasantville, and will be available to work with SH starting in January.

a. Claire passed around the CSC Pledge resolution adopted 9/2014

She noted that there are some confusions regarding DEC acceptance of the Pledge: DEC says we can use the logo for being a CSC but we are only registered, we are not certified. There are 244 registered CSC communities. Of these, currently 1 has achieved silver status and 20 have achieved bronze.

b. Nana noted that the structure of the program is that you submit/post your documents as you get them, but there is no immediate feedback. Allie explained that there are three dates a year when DEC staff review the applications.

c. Allie: Village still needs to (1) adopt a resolution creating a task force and (2) appoint the coordinator of the task force.

d. Glenn – Can SHEAC be the task force?

i. Allie: Yes, but also need a coordinator and a municipal rep both of whom must be on the Task Force

ii. Glenn: Wayne Ballard, DPW Superintendent is the best person from the Village to be on the Task Force. But first need to discuss with Anthony.

iii. Allie is willing to serve as Coordinator for SH for the period of her internship – January thru June 2019. She would like a copy of the SH Pledge Resolution. Claire will download it from the SH CSC Dashboard and forward it to her.

e. Allie explained her role in the CSC certification in Pleasantville. She is doing GHG (Greenhouse Gas) Inventory. She noted that NYSEERDA did a mid-Hudson GHG inventory that includes SH, but this only applies to residential use, not government use. We need both.

f. Claire: SH also did an energy Audit in 2015, or at least did a resolution approving one. But it's not clear that this audit was done at the level required for CSC credit (must be level 2 or 3)

g. Allie: Can provide a list for SHEAC of what she needs in terms of data to do GHG inventory for SH

ii. Glenn: if you give us the list we can give it to the village clerk

iii. Allie: Greenhouse gas inventories is where you start when you do a climate action plan

4. Comprehensive Plan

a. Claire noted that everyone should read the Comprehensive Plan to see what will meet the criteria for the CSC, and everyone should comment on the sustainability aspects of the plan and copy Committee with our comments. We should call for/reference a climate action plan in the Comprehensive Plan

b. Glenn: but the Comp plan is currently general and we need to create specific steps in order to do that.

d. Dave (on Steering Committee for Comp Plan) feels that the draft thus far has incorporated SHEAC's recommendations on sustainability issues.

5. CCA Final Update

iv. Thank you to Claire Davis and Melissa Howard for putting together the work necessary to create a resolution which got approved, moving the Village to Westchester Power

v. One issue was that another power company put out a letter the same day, which was confusing to residents

6. Route 9 Projects Update – Dan

vi. Nov 17th was the final presentation by consultants, about 50 members of public attended and there was good representation of elected officials

vii. Question is how to move forward

viii. Results needs final tweaking, but Dan feels it is a good product – helps with school transport/parking/health and doesn't impact throughput of people driving.

- ix. Claire: When will you go to the Board with this? Dan: Not sure.
- x. Glenn: what are the other (along Route 9 that are part of the plan) boards doing?
- xi. Dan: other villages are supportive. Will bring to SH Board soon

7. Composting Collection

- xii. Claire Recap: Tarrytown has a composting food scraps dropoff, with a contract with a carting company. The contract is costing them \$400 a month, with bins that can be latched. (Unsure how often picked up). Starting with 4 bins. Asked about sharing the service - using their dropoff and the cost. Definitely something Tarrytown is interested in negotiating.
- xiii. Glenn: important to have residents come speak at a Board meeting in support of this project.
- xiv. General support in SHEAC for working with TT, joining into their project - main concern in SH is that there is nowhere to put it so TT drop off is ideal

8. Hudson River Storm Surge Barrier Proposal by USACE

- i. The Village adopted the resolution that Claire drafted and sent it in on time to meet the Nov. 5th deadline for comments.
- ii. Riverkeeper has sent out an update: The Army Corps has scrapped the plan to select two of the six alternatives. Instead they will be coming out with a new, interim report in spring 2019, taking into account comments already received, and the new report will be subject to a new public comment period.

9. Dec 12 Climate Change Forum - flyer attached. Cost is \$20 until Dec 9. Dave and Claire plan to attend.

New Business

Social Media Intern- Melanie
Will return to this in January

Dec 4 BOT Work Session -

A plan to remove the trees from Beekman avenue and replace them with new trees during the new sidewalk construction project is on the agenda for discussion. Claire and Francois were invited to attend and will address the BOT on how to save the current trees.

Reappointments to SHEAC - Dave Avrin, Claire Davis, Melanie DuPuis, and Nana Welch were reappointed to new 4 year terms.

Next Meeting will be on Monday January 7, 2019