

Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, July 1, 2019

Attendees: Claire Davis, Dan Convisser, Nana Welch
Guests: Charles Zekus, Lina Tapia, Karen Vastola, Glenn Rosenbloom

Meeting opened 7:11pm

Watershed Protection

a. Village pesticide policy & Healthy Yards Campaign report -
Dave reported to Claire that he will follow up with Glenn on how to proceed with the proposed pesticide policy resolution. Dave further reported that a meeting was scheduled for July 7th at Kendal on Hudson to include Glen Taylor and Anne White from Kendal, Dave and Jessica Fox to discuss improved lawncare practices at Kendal.

b. Status of invasive species grant award
\$36,817 was awarded at the beginning of May to include a 25% match by the Village for a total of about \$46,000. The grant calls for the removal of 3 specific invasive species: porcelain berry, phragmites, and european alder. The Grant also covers monitoring of the area after the plants are removed. This will be achieved via an internship through Pace.

c. LDC grant application for Devries shoreline
\$375,000 out of the \$750,000 GM mitigation settlement funds was awarded by the DEC to Sleepy Hollow for restoration of the Horseman trail and the shoreline that abuts it within Devries Park. Another \$104,000 of the settlement funds went to Historic Hudson Valley to continue the restoration of the trail and shoreline from Devries Park through the Historic Hudson property. And the final \$200,000 went to Tarrytown for repair of the shoreline next to the Losee Park ball field.

d. \$350,000 Hudson River Estuary grant program
The Village has applied for a Climate Adaptive Design (CAD) grant sponsored by Cornell University. The purpose of the grant is to "use design to inspire Hudson Riverfront communities." Claire will try to provide more info on this grant application at the next meeting.

Food Scraps Collection Program Update

Over 250 kits have been sold in total between Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow; 51 of these went to Sleepy Hollow residents. Lina Tapia and Diana Loja worked with Claire to get the promotional materials translated into Spanish and distributed. Lina stressed the need for more verbal outreach at places like Open Door, Life Center, and medical offices on Broadway.

Climate Smart Communities

Sarah Smiley will be reaching out to Sean McCarthy to obtain documentation on Brownfield site remediation at Barnhardt Park and Duracell Battery sites. She will be accessing the DEC Climate Smart Website to upload documents once she is able to get them from Sean. Claire reported that she is planning on getting together with Wayne Ballard to gather remaining documentation for several open point eligible items. Claire further reported that Anthony Giaccio has an intern from Oneonta College who may be able to continue with the Green House Gas inventory. However, we ultimately may have to hire someone to finish the study.

Walkability Report Implementation

As a follow-up to the ten-day crosswalk and curb extension demo project at Beekman & Lawrence and the subsequent report to the BOT, Mayor Wray suggested that Claire

arrange to meet with all concerned department heads to resolve differences and come up with an agreed upon implementation recommendation for the BOT. To this end, Claire has requested that Anthony Giaccio arrange a meeting for her that will include the Police and Fire chiefs, the DPW Superintendent and Trustee Leavy to discuss how we can best implement the Walkability Report recommendations at Beekman Avenue intersections.

Comprehensive Plan

There have been three public hearings, and written comments are still being accepted until July 23rd (this may be extended). Asked for a timeframe for adoption, Glenn reported that the Board of Trustees will first meet with BFJ to discuss how to incorporate the oral and written comments into the plan. Once BFJ has incorporated those comments and finalized the plan to the Board's satisfaction, the Board will vote to adopt the final plan, which should occur before the end of 2019. Claire explained that approval of the plan will help with achieving climate-smart community bronze status.

New Business

Tree City Renewal status

The village is up for renewal of its "Tree City" designation. Submittal of the renewal application has been delayed and the latest information is that Fiona Matthews is working on submitting it asap. Claire will contact Fiona to get an update on submittal status.

June 6th climate workshop

This was the 2nd County workshop on climate change. Dave registered but was unable to attend. Karen Vastola attended and reported that there was lots of discussion about trees via the State Forester and Cornell Cooperative Extension. She shared with us that 63% of New York State is forested (highest percentage in the country), and 73% of that is privately owned. Discussions revolved around the effects of climate change on trees.

Set date for next meeting

Claire proposed August 5th and September 9th (2nd Monday due to Labor Day) for the next two meeting dates. However, since there was no quorum at this meeting, it was agreed that an email poll would be taken to officially set the next two meeting dates.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm