

Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, August 5, 2019

2nd floor of Sleepy Hollow Village Hall

Attendees: Beverly Jansen, Dan Convisser, Francois Releiji, Dave Avrin, Claire Davis, Nana Welch
Guest: Karen Vastola

7:20 PM, meeting commenced

1. July minutes approved with corrections.

2. Watershed Protection Updates - Dave

a) Village pesticide policy & Healthy Yards Campaign report

Dave was to contact Glenn Rosenbloom to discuss how to proceed with Pesticide Policy reso but hasn't done so yet. Dave met with Anne White (Kendal) and Glen Taylor (Phelps) and Jessica Fox on July 10th to talk about improvements to Phelps landscape practices. Glen Taylor is ready to participate and use more eco friendly landscaping, but has to convince the corporation (Phelps/Northwell) that it will be cost effective. Kendal has new management, Anne White plans to reach out to them regarding landscape practices as well. Kendal, Phelps, and Regeneron all have the same landscaper - Brightview.

b) Jessica Fox email updates reported by Dave

***Sleepy Hollow (SH) pollinator pathways - open space committee met in July with Chet Ker of Irvington to extend pollinator pathway program through SH. They plan to plant in the triangle in Philipse Manor at Pierson/Bellwood. Jessica met with Marjorie Hsu (PMIA) to discuss next steps and figure out funding. The pollinator garden planted by Erin Carney in Barnhardt park looks good; DPW has been keeping it watered.

***Edge on Hudson pesticide applications noticed on May 25th and July 29th.

Pictures were sent to Marjorie Hsu to follow up.

***Inter-Village Coalition meeting is September 22nd, a notice will be sent out. They will plan to have educational workshops throughout the rivertowns.

***Jessica discussed with Fiona the possibilities for grant funding. Fiona Matthews is working on the RFP for the Fremont Pond grant. Marjorie Hsu would like to plan another healthy yards workshop.

c) Provisions of invasive species grant award (\$36,800 with matching 25% component to remove three specific species along Pocantico shoreline in Devries Park).

Claire reviewed the provisions of the approved grant application from an extract and a map of the covered area provided by Fiona. Provisions call for hiring a company, Trillium Invasives Species Mgt. Inc, to do the removal, and PACE would monitor removal after it was done (2 -3 yr. period). Fiona Matthews is working on the implementation of the grant. Claire noted that, among other removal methods, use of two herbicides -Glyphosate (Round-Up) and Triclopyr are proposed. Claire voiced concerns to Fiona regarding the use of the herbicides. Fiona suggested that she arrange a meeting to include Trillium, Pace and SHEAC to discuss concerns over potential removal methods before Fiona writes up final specifications

Removal of invasives along the Horseman trail is also included in the GM settlement award) (\$375K grant). Claire asked Fiona how invasive removal work under the two grants will be integrated. Fiona said she hadn't seen the GM settlement grant yet, but plans to review it.

Dave believes many agencies will have to be involved in reviewing a work plan

before any implementation occurs at Devries. Claire is to meet with Fiona on August 6th and will

a.) clarify what additional levels of review might be required for any implementation plan, and

b.) clarify the purpose of a meeting with the contractor and Pace.

d) More on provisions of GM Settlement grants if available

Claire reported - no additional information at this time. Claire is to meet with Anthony Giaccio on August 7th.

e) Status of CAD (Climate Adaptive Design) grant application - Claire is to meet with Anthony Giaccio on August 7th (UPDATE NOTE: Grant was not successful)

2. Food Scrap Collection Program Updates

There has been no announcement yet on the grant Status.

Program implementation - Claire reported that 63 kits have been sold to SH residents. 7-8 sold at Village Hall. Spanish translations are finished and flyers were given to Lina Tapia (who works at the Life Center Annex on Valley Street). Lina planned to distribute the flyers to the Life Center on Beekman. Dean Gallea of TEAC told Claire that Tarrytown plans to move the collection bins to a place behind the tennis courts, and everyone will be notified of the new location.

3. Climate Smart Community Status Update

Claire met with Wayne Ballard on July 11th to clarify specific items that we need from him/the village to achieve additional points.. Claire reported that we can now get 18 points for CCA participation (a new, separate action category for CCA is now found on the DEC website). She also plans to contact Westchester Power for a copy of the CCA contract specifying the Renewable Option as the village default choice, which may qualify us for additional points under Green Purchasing Policy. Claire feels she can/will be able to prepare the Green House Gas (GHG) COMMUNITY Report utilizing SH data from the 2010 Mid-Hudson Regional Report. We only have until the end of this year to use that report (data only valid for 10 years). However, the Village will need to hire someone to complete the Municipal GHGI, and Fiona Matthews has applied for a Climate Smart Grant for that purpose.

4. Walkability Report Implementation update

Claire reported no updates. No meetings to resolve issues with the intersections - still waiting on Anthony to set up a meeting. To be continued.

5. Comprehensive Plan Status Update

Dan reported on the BOT Worksession of July 16th. Consultants from BFJ were there - presented status of plan. The public comment period officially ended July 23rd. BFJ will send a memo to trustees regarding the comments that came in. They will create a redlined document showing the changes to the plan based on the comments; written public comments on the edited version will be accepted until September 3rd. There were lots of comments over four nights of public hearings. Some were written comments, mainly formalizing what people said publicly. Concern was voiced about the Historic Hudson Valley entrance at Pocantico and Broadway. Opposition to a marina at Horan's Landing comprised a large number of the comments, and there were also a lot of comments about pedestrian safety; BFJ will adjust the report to strengthen the language. The Route 9 study is incorporated into the proposed Comprehensive plan.

6. Tree City application renewal status

Francois reported that the deadline for 2018 was missed. The DEC will allow us to keep the sign, and the portal will re-open in September. Fiona Matthews will apply then for 2019.

Dave reported that he been working with SH Cemetery to have them declared a national arboretum. The Cemetery's status as such could satisfy the 2019 Tree City application.

New Business -

PARKing Day - September 20 this year.

Dan explained that this is a national/international day every year when a car parking space is turned into a park, thereby reclaiming a parking space as public space (with a different use). Claire further explained that PARKing Day started in 2005 in San Francisco, and is the third Friday in September of every year.

Dan proposed that SHEAC be involved in a PARKing Day project this September. Motion second by Nana Welch for further discussion. Claire: who will implement the project? Vote taken, 2 yay, 2 nay, 2 abstain. Does not pass, will not go forward.

Jessica Fox has been approached to be a replacement for Melanie Dupuis on the SHEAC board. Francios proposed she join the committee, Dave seconded. All approved. Her resume will be submitted to the Mayor.

Karen Vastola said that she has seen that the car charging stations on Elm street are being used. The Village charges for electricity at these stations, and payment by credit card is accepted, but it is not advertised.

Next meeting will be Monday September 9th at 7:15 pm in Village Hall

8:45 meeting adjourned.