

Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, January 6, 2020

7:25pm - 2nd floor of Sleepy Hollow Village Hall

Attendees: Claire Davis, Dave Avrin, Francois Rejeili, Dan Convisser, Beverly Jansen, Nana Welch, Glenn Rosenbloom
Guests: Suzanna Jones

1. Review progress on SHEAC's Priority Issues for 2019

a. Promoting joint participation in the TT Foodscrap Collection Program - IMA with TT signed in April - 96 kits sold already to SH residents.

Received grant from the state for promotion of foodscrap program (education and outreach - \$17,286 includes match by Village). Claire and Jessica met with Fiona regarding grant implementation. Will get a few sample submissions from the designer for promotional materials. Grant application was submitted 6 months ago, before contract was signed with TT, and included free kits. Instead of giving out free kits, will likely offer reduced price kits for low income residents - need to figure out how to do this. Some grant money could also go to pay DPW for pick up at additional drop off points and carting to Pierson Park if agreed to. A portion of the grant is going to design, remainder to go toward subsidizing reduced cost kits and improved promotion of the program. COMPLETED

b. Establishing a Climate Smart Task Force and Advancing the Village status as a Climate Smart Community. The Task Force was established in late January 2019. A grant application was submitted several months ago to hire someone to complete the municipal GHG Inventory, but the application is still pending. The SH CSC application has been updated steadily over the past year and application for bronze status was filed with the DEC at the beginning of December. DEC review of that application is still pending. Meanwhile, due to the Village's having signed on to the Climate Smart Pledge, the Village has been able to obtain a \$2 million CSC grant for the removal of the DPW from its current location in the flood plain to a new site on the East Parcel. COMPLETED

c. Implementation of the Walkability Report recommendations - report went out in 2016. Following a SHEAC presentation in November, the Board agreed to install a new crosswalk with curb extensions at Lawrence and Beekman, but no changes have happened yet. Last Fall, following a pilot project, there appeared to be general agreement by the Board to implement recommended pedestrian-friendly improvements at Pocantico and Beekman, but there has been no follow through. Comments were submitted in the last round of the Comprehensive Plan seeking adjustment of a drawing at the intersection of Cortland and Beekman that does not conform to report recommendations, but the change was not adopted. Minimal Progress d. Continuation of watershed protection goals:

i. Lawn care/Healthy yards - Two successful workshops held in 2019: the Pocantico River Watershed Alliance program, and a Healthy Yards Workshop sponsored by SHEAC and the Fremont Pond Stakeholders Committee last March. The planning board may be interested in co-hosting a second Healthy

Yards Workshop this Spring. On SHEAC's recommendation, the Village passed a resolution establishing a no-pesticide policy for landscaping treatment on village property. PROGRESS MADE

ii.

iii.

Storm Drain Medallions - no progress. Address stormwater catch basins/medallions in

2020. County will host a seminar in March on stormwater management. Building on the Fremont Pond Grant to include entire watershed community grant implementation to clean up the pond is still pending.

2. Develop Priorities for 2020

- a. Implement grant for food scraps program; work toward expanding the program
- b. Work with others on a second Healthy Yards Workshop (in the spring) - include outreach to landscape contractors and promote Pollinator Pathways program. Will discuss including the topic of bagging/mulching leaves and leaf pickup alternatives at our February meeting.
- c. Walkability Recommendations may be furthered, according to Glenn, through participation on an implementation committee under the Comprehensive Plan - Dan and Claire will push for SHEAC representation on that committee.
- d. Promote working jointly with the Planning Board and the Tree Commission on proposed revisions by the Planning Board to streamline tree ordinance implementation. Dave will reach out to the planning board to set up a meeting and Francois will represent the Tree Commission. The Open Space Committee may be consulted as well. County and State are working on mandates to increase the tree canopy. Claire and Jessica will report in February on workshop they attended on this topic.
- e. Climate Smart Communities - on hold for next several months while application is under review.

Next meeting date: To be announced

Meeting adjourned 9:05pm