

Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, March 9, 2020

2nd floor Sleepy Hollow Village Hall

Present: Jessica Fox, Claire Davis, Nana Welch
Guests: Charles Zekus, Dave Cwik, Deb Wood (Kendal)

7:20pm meeting commenced

Minutes of February 10th approved electronically

1. Update on joint work with PB, Public Space Council & Tree Commission to examine tree ordinance Dave Avrin organized a meeting on February 25th that included SHEAC, the Tree Commission, the Planning Board, and the Public Space Council to discuss improving implementation of the Village Tree Ordinance. The meeting, which Dave chaired, was an effort to have all 4 village committees work together as a result of concerns previously raised with Village BOT by Planning Board members. The Tree Commission approves most applications for tree removal. However, in the event of a denial, if a homeowner wants to appeal the commission's decision, they need to take it to the Planning Board. Uncertain as to their proper role in the process, the PB has been passing appeals back to the Tree Commission, and finally asked the BOT to come up with a better way to deal with the issue. They are interested in adding more trees (i.e. Beekman Ave tree replacement). Implementation of the existing law was discussed, and it was determined that many sections are not being enforced. Case in point: the village has no tree officer. It was agreed that a certified arborist who is independent of the village should be found to fill this role. Also, a tree inventory done in 2015 needs to be updated, and procedures for DPW (not just homeowners) to follow before taking down street trees need to be clarified. Next meeting is March 24th and the PB agreed to chair. Lots of trainings have been scheduled regarding tree management this year through ELLA (Environmental Leaders Learning Alliance). The Tree Commission has money to plant 3 trees - they are picking locations and this may serve as an Arbor Day event. Jessica is working on a program for the next Healthy Yards Workshop that will include having a tree expert come to give a talk. Terrapin tree company (Pleasantville) will be presenting the importance of trees and removing invasives. May link the workshop with the Arbor Day event. Arbor Day is April 24th.

2. Update on Climate Smart application status Review by the DEC was completed in mid-February and 97 points were awarded (120 pts required). Items to be revised: the Brownfield cleanup (9 pts); Fleet inventory (4 pts); Complete Streets (4 pts); National Resources Inventory (10 pts); Comprehensive Plan (15 pts). On April 3rd, a new review period will open and we can resubmit with updated documentation that may achieve certification in the next review. In addition, we will need a new resolution in November with regards to the Farmer's Market to continue credits for that item. Credit for the GHG report was granted for now, but the inventory will have to be updated in August 2020 or credits will expire. Upon resubmittal, a resolution of the BOT is necessary appointing Claire as the CSC coordinator. Anthony Giaccio has agreed to continue as the staff representative on the CSC. A Task Force meeting is tentatively planned for April 27th.

3. Update on Lawrence & Beekman new crosswalk plan Claire reported that Trustee John Leavy worked with Sean McCarthy on design/placement of a new crosswalk and Sean's plan is not the same as the last one Claire presented to the BOT. There are some issues with the new plan and it is still a work in progress. Anthony Giaccio has indicated that a new crosswalk at Lawrence, once a plan is finalized, will be included in the sidewalk replacement project.

4. Beekman Ave Sidewalk replacement - Project needs to go out for re-bidding.

Hopefully, crosswalk improvements recommended at Pocantico would also be addressed at that time. Claire did not have enough time to review the plans for the sidewalk replacement project while meeting with Anthony. He said the plans are posted on the Village website and suggested she review them there.

5. Update on Food Scrap Program Grant implementation Jessica reported that Fiona Matthews has finalized the grant checklist and budget. DEC must approve the final budget. We have the greenlight from Fiona to work with the graphic designer. Jessica set up an Instagram page to go over ideas with the designer. Will meet soon to present the two options for the design. There will be reusable bags that advertise the program as well. Grant \$ will expand the program with increased outreach and education. The budget will allow for reduced kit prices for SNAP and WIC participants. Claire reported that according to Tarrytown Village Admin, kit prices will go back down to \$20 shortly. Tarrytown plans to continue the drop off program even if curbside pickup there begins.

6. "Queen of the Sun" March 3rd film showing recap Jessica reported on the film showing co-hosted with TEAC. Film about the bee industry and how bees are used. 20-25 people attended. Jessica gave out maps to attendees and had people fill in garden locations on pollinator maps. TEAC is hosting the next film soon.

7. April 18th Earth Day Pollinator Pathway program
Jessica reported that she will partner with a middle school teacher to do a pollinator pathway station game starting at 3pm at Pierson Park. TEAC has planned festivities and food trucks.

New Business:

Eco Challenge - Jessica explained - sponsored locally by Intervillage Sustainability Committee.

April 1 - April 22; People sign onto website - join the intervillage team (DASH IT RIVERTOWN TEAM), work on specific areas: forest, fresh water, oceans, etc. Specific action items within each area. Users pick what they want to do to help the environment i.e. use reusable bottles, plant native plants, community clean up etc. Incentivize people to participate in Earth Day.

Saturday May 2nd 2020 Riverkeeper Sweep & Village-wide Clean-up - Clean up Devries and Douglas park. Same day as the Village wide clean-up. Village supplies the clean-up materials for park cleanups. Village organizes events at Sykes Park, the community garden at 100 College Ave; clean-up of tree beds on Cortlandt.

Also this year, Anthony will arrange to apply additional recycle stickers to the recycle trash cans that don't have them. Volunteers will be needed for all events. These will be part of the countywide effort from

April 1st - May 17th called "Big Clean Westchester" to celebrate 50 years of Earth Day.

Next meeting is Monday April 6, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 8:51pm