

Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, March 1, 2021

Zoom Meeting Monday

Attendance: Dave Avrin, Francois Rejeili, Karen Vastola, Beverly Jansen, Dan Convisor, Jessica Fox
Guest: Sarah Smiley, Kersten Harries

1. Approval of February Minutes - approved

2. Update on joint village tree committee to revise village tree ordinance and develop a forest management strategy for village. (Dave, Jess, Francois) -
Dave: Erin Carney, Jessica and Dave talked regarding steps to creating an urban management plan for Sleepy Hollow. Certain points were discussed to determine any legal issues with our code. We need to also create a management plan i.e. replacement trees, an updated tree inventory, having a tree management project. Encouraging the village in communications with residents to plan the right trees in the right areas. Dave and Jess have looked at creating a tree management plan for the village. One step is to survey residents in the village to determine how much support there is for creating a management plan. Jess is working on the survey.
Dave: Discussion regarding new tree plantings in the village for the spring. Possibly having an arbor day event. The cemetery has now been given status as an Arboretum (thanks Dave). The cemetery must host an Arbor Day event, perhaps in concert with the village.
Francois: no new news from the village since the proposal was submitted. The village has maintained it's Tree City status for this year.
Erin Marsh: sent Dave action items that the village is taking this spring - Anthony Giaccio has a list of 30 trees that could be planted in the spring. Tree inventory update will take place at the end of March. Arbor Pro will be doing the inventory to update the 2014 inventory. Keeping the inventory updated in the long term is still a work in progress. The current inventory has been mapped via the Westchester GIS.

3. Complete streets planning update (Dan)

Dan: has not drafted letter as of yet, it will be drafted in the coming weeks.
Kersten Harries: people involved in the mural painting committee are looking for additional community arts projects. Prioritized Beekman Avenue and improving pedestrian safety - putting a painted or artful crosswalk at the Pocantico/Beekman intersection. The art committee will support what SHEAC has previously put before the board.

Jessica: contacted by "FLOW" a Con-Ed partner who looks at opportunities for EV charging stations in public areas. The village is considering Solar panels for community solar over the parking lot at Edge-on-Hudson.

4. Recycling guide update and other community education efforts
On hold for now; Dave will talk with Anthony Giaccio.

5. Watershed protection update (Dave and Jess)

No updates. Jessica - followed up on Fremont pond - spoke with the fire chief, who spoke with DEP regarding the oil spill mitigation. The fire department put up temporary dams to collect any remaining oil. Jessica will follow up with Anthony Giaccio to make sure they are removed and final clean up has occurred. The Fremont Pond grant is on hold.

6. Discussion of 2021 Committee Priorities

Discuss 2021 priorities at next meeting. The River Sweep is May 1. The village has sponsored clean-ups at Devries and Douglas parks. Deadline to inform Riverkeeper by

March 10th. Clean-up is usually a couple of hours. Clearing invasives is usually the focus along with general clean-up.

2020 Priorities

1. Village grant for improved food scrap program publicity/education
2. Watershed protection (healthy yards, pollinator pathways, Freemont Pond DEC grant, village leaf pick-up program)
3. Walkability (crosswalk improvements on Beekman Avenue)
4. Climate Smart Community
7. Climate Smart Community - Separate subcommittee zoom at 7:30 (Sarah)

Next SHEAC Meeting set for April 5