

SHEAC / CSC Task Force Meeting

12/5/22

Location: Village Hall

Attendees: Anne White, Kiko Bourne, Judi Knispel, Gina Carey, Dave Avrin, Sarah Smiley, Dan Convissor (via Zoom), Deb Wood (via Zoom)

Agenda/Minutes:

1. Introductions

2. Approval of 11/7/22 meeting minutes - Approved

3. Report back on trip to CompostED

- SH attendees were Anne, Sarah, Kiko, Rachael, and two Kendall residents. Aleks Jagiello gave the tour, 10,000 sq ft facility used as a demonstration site, it uses an air blowing system, and a forklift to turn the piles.
- Aleks is an amazing educator, a great place to bring groups.
- Can we do this in Sleepy Hollow to avoid emissions of transporting compost?
- Kids could paint murals on the cinder block walls surrounding the piles
- Low-tech, need staff person to manage it
- Did it smell? No, but we would have to see how it is in summer.
- Could it be done at the new DPW site? They plan to create community gardens there, and we can use leaves that the Village picks up.
- NYC has them, but considered industrial activity, not next to residential
- Kiko will reach out to Aleks to ask if other municipalities have done it. [Update: See Aleks' responses linked [here](#).]
- Gina: Brattleboro, VT has it; Bob Spencer spoke at the WASS event.

4. Food scrap program updates (sent by Kirsten, who could not attend mtg)

- Since the program is through the county, SH DPW is not weighing the food scraps but they expect to start receiving bills in January – we should consider ~2 month lag time for stats
- 3 sites are being used but it seems like the Elm St parking lot is getting the most consistent usage
- DPW is not consolidating on a regular schedule but instead when they have time throughout the week and find that the bins are usually about ¼ of the way full.

5. Food scrap program promotion ideas

- Anne reached out to Bill Batson to discuss communications in general, who is doing what
- Composting community challenge; village-wide, or between classes at middle school - good way to get info home to families
- Ask principals to send out info in newsletters - Kiko will draft it. Give \$10 to all district families.
- Anne got Kendall residents to buy starter kits by showing hers at a meeting there.

- Discussed doing training for students, but decided it was too tricky to do that as a one-off
- Guide inside bins has useful info, but Greenburgh info is on it (drop off sites, etc.). We will put stickers listing SH drop off sites on our mailer (covering the address area), and insert them into the kits.
 - Dan will update the PDF with drop off locations on SHEAC website.
 - Add QR code to sticker connecting to SHEAC website.
 - Anne: C2 Meeting of local non-profits, encouraged them to visit CompostED, shared flyer in their minutes
 - Anne: Kendal would like task force to attend meeting in February to share updates
 - Ask Mayor to include in his newsletter - New Year's resolution to compost
 - Anne: will work on a monthly SHEAC newsletter with Bill, Kiko, and Gabi - send out 10 days before monthly meeting

6. CEC grant application ideas - \$10,000 for a project that helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions

- Judi: build composting facility
- Sarah: other villages have done a landscaping buy-back program
- Dave: we can ask high school students to come up with idea, a contest to come up with idea; Gina: high school club hasn't met yet, teacher hasn't responded to last couple of emails; next month is out due to holidays, Anne: also looking for HS students for SHEAC.
- Gina: mini grants for small businesses (induction stoves, replace take-out supplies, compost pick-up). Anne will ask Rene Leon his opinion.
- Dan: cargo bikes for DPW to use in parks
- Dave: electric leafblower for Village, plus battery, or electric lawn mower. Can test it out, make transition easier.
- Get cost estimates on composting facility, landscaping equipment, small business ideas
- Grant sub-committee, ask task force members to opt-in. So far: Judi, Anne, Kiko, Gina, Dave, Dan, Deb, Sarah

7. 12/6 BOT Presentation items: Energy Benchmarking Policy, Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy, share updates on compost program

8. Proposal for future BOT meeting: Fleet Efficiency Policy (Judi)

- complete a baseline inventory, give short term (2 yr) or medium term (5 yrs) deadlines of efficiency standards.
- By 2035 all vehicles sold in NYS must be electric
- Mostly adapting Hastings' policy
- Present it at January BOT work session

9. Sign-on Letter request from Westchester Alliance for Sustainable Solutions

- Anne: letter requests that the County hire a consultant to figure out how to phase out the incinerator

- Gina: Want county to hire zero waste consultant, County legislature is familiar with the letter
- Dave: Think it's fine to sign on, historically SHEAC tries to advocate for things that Village supports - can send the sign-on letter to Village
- Gina: we send less waste every year, but not burning less - incinerator takes in trash from other places. Courtney Williams has a Cliffs Notes version.
- Anne will speak with Courtney and then forward the letter to BOT and ask them to consider signing on.

10. High School environmental club collaboration updates

- See notes above in Item 6

11. Morse Eco-Club updates - tabled until next meeting

12. Open discussion: updates from members, upcoming events, etc.

- SHEAC / Tree Commission - Dave will be liaison to the tree commission; need one other SHEAC member to do so as well. Tree commission theoretically meets once a month. Invite Village Tree Officer to attend a SHEAC meeting to talk about it.