

SHEAC/CSC Meeting

June 5, 2023

Location: Village Hall & on Zoom

Attendees: Sarah Smiley, Gina Carey, Char Weigel, Dean Gallea (TEAC), Judi Knispel, Dave Avrin, Deb Wood, Anne White, Kiko Bourne, Diana Loja, Dan Convissor, Susanne Jones

Notetaker: Kiko Bourne

Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Events
 - a. 5/6 Riversweeps (Judi & Anne). Judi and Char led cleanup at Horan's landing and adjacent Riverwalk. They had 20 volunteers, including from NY Volunteers. Anne did Devries Park, along with a landscaper who's planting trees there and 15 volunteers. Char has created a Volunteer NY account for SHEAC, and will post on our behalf there.
 - b. 5/27 TaSH - tabling debrief (Anne: it was a successful first run. TEAC's educational displays drew people in. Diana provided the folding table, folding tent, folding chairs, green tablecloths. Diana and Anne are working on identifying a permanent space to keep our event materials. Anne would like to have pollinator garden info at TaSH table too.
 - i. What's needed for upcoming TaSH dates? Collect recyclable materials (batteries, corks, etc.)
 - c. 6/10 Day of Defiant Hope - what is needed? (Judi) Judi has materials ready to go, except for enough home composting kits to sell (Kevin thinks DPW has less than 20 kits, so Judi will take what is left.
 - d. 6/25 Compost Giveback Day (Kiko) - give free compost to anyone who brings a bucket, motivate people to recycle food scraps. Launch event for Waste Reduction Education campaign.
 - i. Event logistics
 1. John Paulding, Sun. 6/25
 2. Partnering with TEAC.
 3. Where to bring leftover compost?
 - a. Depends on how much. 5 cubic yards being purchased. Dean can ask Tarrytown, possibly their organics yard.
 - b. Leave it at Peabody, people can come get it there. Susanne will check with Katie.
 4. Games for kids. Diana will see what they have.
 5. Educational activities for kids.
 6. SH Mayor confirmed to speak. Dean will see if TT Mayor is available.
 7. Videographer - Diana has contact info to give Gina.

8. Bill working on press release; Gina will get quote from Mayor, Kiko will get one from Principal Barnett.
 9. Kiko will talk to Kirsten about getting tarp there from DPW.
 10. Intake form for sign-ups.
 11. Outreach
 - a. Artist creating material to advertise.
 - b. English/Spanish flyer - Diana Loja translated for it, will help spread the word with Spanish speaking families.
 - c. Toy composting machinery for kids to use at event.
 - d. Will get a webpage up tomorrow, start promoting.
 - e. Susanne's network of gardeners, PMIA
 - f. Char will put it on Community 10591
 - g. TEAC put it in newsletter, will add to website, send him graphics. Might do a special eblast. Hudson Independent listing.
 - ii. Volunteers for event - need about 6 more. Include on the email to committees.
 - e. CompostEd field trip update (Kirsten): On hold until compost giveback day is done.
3. Meeting with Mayor and co-chairs - Leaders met with Mayor Rutyna last week, shared how our committees work.
 - a. Mayor's goals: Downtown revitalization, via NY Forward grant; Communications improvement; Climate Smart Communities Silver Accreditation
 - b. Branding: Wants to keep two committees, but wants an outward facing title that encompasses the work of both groups. Anne wants to organize a rebrand brainstorm for SHEAC. She floated "Working Together to Build a Sustainable Sleepy Hollow". Maybe we will send out an email to our broader volunteer group about the rename.
 - c. Mayor is looking at all committees, to see who's active, who's ready to move on. He's sending out a call for new committee members, and Anne has set a max of 9 members. She's looking to build a balanced team and meet with interested members.
 4. Climate Action Plan update (Sarah): Village selected VHB as consultant (Judi, Char and Gina were involved in the review process for proposals; they're the same consultancy as working on NY Forward). Will help establish the Village's goals for reducing emissions and adapting to climate change. Goal is to develop goals and priorities. It also gives us CSC points. Vulnerabilities will be identified.
 5. Waste Reduction Education Campaign update/next steps (Gina): Zero Waste Subcommittee has helped form what this will look like, as a CSC pillar. The focus will be on food scrap recycling. Mayor will launch this campaign at Compost Giveback Day 6/25. Local Artist Melissa Lohman Wild is creating graphics for key messages. Gina asks

whether other politicians beyond Mayor Rutyna should be invited to speak; group is in favor of asking whether County Executive Latimer, Mary Jane Shimsky, other Westchester County officials can attend.

Documenting the campaign is an important component, and we will continue to do that in a spreadsheet that Sarah has created.

Gina will send a doodle to schedule next meeting.

6. Complete Streets Policy/Pedestrian Safety Campaign/Route 9 project update (Anne):
Anne began updating the Policy and encountered many questions. The QR code/community survey of unsafe intersections is on hold currently in favor of focusing on the Route 9 project. Mary Jane Shimsky is focused on making the study substantive. Discussion of e-bikes and e-scooters has come to the forefront, with questions about where they belong and how to manage them. National Association of City Transportation Officials has a guide for Complete Streets.
Dan shared that the Village is soliciting a transportation planner who would be guided by NACTO.
Char raises the fire safety issue regarding e-bikes and e-scooters, and will plan to gather a group to discuss that issue and how to be prepared to advise on it.
Dan shared an update on the Route 9 study: DOT has advised a resident of Irvington that in early summer there will be an elected officials briefing, followed by a public outreach effort. Corridor review and preliminary investigation will begin in fall.
Dan is working with Mayor Rutyna to engage with DOT on changes to Rt. 9 between Dutch Church and Pocantico.
7. NY Forward update (Kirsten): Kirsten, please send the NY Forward update by email to the SHEAC volunteer group.
8. Fremont Pond update (Dave shared the project happening in Peabody to improve the quality of water in Fremont Pond is on hold. Dave recommended that neighbors on Fremont be made aware of that delay. Pocantico River project in Devries is in progress.)
9. Proposed field trip: David Rockefeller Creative Arts Center at the Pocantico Center:
Anne describes the Orangerie project, which is net zero and platinum LEED. She suggests that a sustainability tour of the building could be of interest for SHEAC. Ellie is the Director of Public Programming for the center.
10. Volunteer survey: Sarah will send out an email seeking volunteers for upcoming events. New contacts on Mailchimp will be tagged with volunteer interest area.
11. Other news
 - a. WASS Updates: Anne seeks input on a report that recommends focus on eliminating waste. Dave, Char, Gina and Judi weighed in on the right way to present the information from the report to our Trustees.
 - b. Next Zero Waste Meeting: Gina will share Doodle to schedule next meeting.

- c. Next SHEAC meeting scheduled for July 10th, 2023 (instead of July 3rd)