

8/7 SHEAC / CSC notes

Present: Rachael, Gabi, Anne, Deb W, Superintendent Dr. Sanchez, Jean Garner, Susanne, Gina, Sarah, Judi, Bridget, Diana

Online: Maya, Arline, Dave, Char

Notetaker: Gina

1 Introductions

2 Dr. Ray Sanchez –

His main projects currently include going on a listening tour in first month; Working on facilities plan; Energy performance contract – looking at energy use in school and making energy efficient upgrades;

Some of his ideas include: expanding gardens to each school with age-appropriate programming; utilizing Peabody; superintendent hikes or camping). Suggested working together to provide information in his Tuesday communication blasts (experimenting in different formats, like text messages).

Morse and WI will be renovated (utilizing Tappan Hills during work).

- School update from Kiko – new waste bins and signage arrived; presentation at Professional Development Day for teachers; lesson plans for students; sending letter to parents
- Q&A:
- (Char): Will school renovation projects fit in CAP learnings? – Dr. S: Now is the time for conversations, as it's at the beginning stage.
- (Gina) What types of programming and environmental projects did you have in Ossining? - Dr S: clubs in all schools; summer invasive plants program with Jacob Burns Center; exploring car ports, solar energy in schools; lunch projects – composting in school and redefining how the approach the lunch process. Changing of beliefs and behaviors is core to success, plus commitment from board, superintendent, and principals; Good to have goals for each building (and likes idea of a SHEAC member liaison for each school). Look at Bedford schools; Katonah for innovative examples.

3. Zero Waste Meeting:

- DPW survey – just translated in Spanish, and we will explore more ways to get it distributed.
- Grow Gardens Campaign – being translated to Spanish this week; first half is live on website; promoted in SHEAC newsletters, and working out a schedule with Judi for social media; working on second half of campaign in August / Sept
- Next meeting is Monday, 7/14

4. Climate Action Plan

- VHB is working on SH assessment

- Next up – meeting this week to create the community engagement plan and how we will reach out to different community stakeholders (Diana will use a Spanish-language paper and church distributions that go out monthly)
- Discussing how VHB can help apply for Westchester Community grant that provides tech support to local gov (how to reduce energy consumption in buildings; climate adaptation) – the local govts then use that info to apply for state and federal grants

5. NY Forward

- SHEAC submitted recommendations for the Village projects
- Summary of some of the different proposals, including reimagining Morse playground
- Next steps: committee reviews more details and asks questions to project sponsors. Applications are prepared for public comments and final recommendations.
- SHEAC - opportunity to look at projects eligible, identify some where we can reach out to proposer and weigh in
 - Write letters of support to projects that most promote sustainability
 - Also let the planning committee know our opinion on what could be included to make the applications more sustainable

6. Kingsland Point Park Meeting

- The event had a great turnout, and we have a great recap in our newsletter recap; The mayor and county exec will work together on feedback (including removing chain link fence, opening up river swimming, maintaining the dog park, making the park more accessible and safe to walk into)

7. Stormwater management

- Fremont pond project is back on track
- Judi invited Tracy Brown from Riverkeeper to a future meeting, but her schedule won't allow her to join – she asked how Riverkeeper can help SHEAC/CSC, and we will send a short list of questions to her
 - Suggested question from Sarah – what does the village have the power to do to make an impact?
 - Susanne – how can the Village fund changes needed in infrastructure, like managing stormwater
 - Char – we should limit our contact to advocacy advice

8. Tabling events –

- Volunteers: We discussed finding volunteers to help at our many upcoming events. Ideas included tapping schools and scouts to help at tables

- Rachael will set up a form and help with monitoring volunteer signups
- Dr. Sanchez will look into volunteer contact at school
- There are many Sept / Oct events coming up, and we'll need to decide which ones we will be present at. Judi suggested skipping tourist-y events
- Aug 20 – Ecuadorian cultural festival (Barnhardt)

9. Updates:

- SHEAC rebranding – unanimous vote: Sustainable Sleepy Hollow; waiting to report to Village admin until less busy
- Membership – Francois resigned; new appointments coming up at Trustee meetings
- SHEAC priorities: in September, discuss what our top priorities are – everyone bring in ideas; will influence what CSC points will be prioritized when we pinpoint priorities
 - What is SHEAC's role – advisory committee. What should it include? (research, education, advocacy, community engagement)
- Businesses – Diana wants to work with DPW and businesses, as well as apartments and building departments, to encourage recycling
- Anne will see what the county will provide for education in new single-use plastics deli law

10. OTHER – other items to be discussed at future meetings:

- Educational tours – CompostEd, etc.
- Green business recognition - Kiko is working with someone from Tarrytown to explore this
- Funding opportunities
- What land options / uses are available at Barnhardt Park?
- Village scrapping public space council – instead, parks committee; public art doesn't have home at moment; Tarrytown placemaking committee

Next meeting: September 11, 2023