

December 4, 2023

Sustainable Sleepy Hollow (SHEAC & CSC Task Force)

Location: Village Hall and on Zoom

Attendees: Dave, Francois, Gina, Marjorie, Kiko, Diana, Anne, Sarah, Arline, Susanne, Carol, Dan

On zoom: Deb, Char

Notetaker: Sarah

Introductions

Updates on Progress Made since November Meeting

- NY Forward
 - Recapped that Village submitted projects for State review and selection.
- Climate Action Plan (Sarah)
 - Focus group with village staff.
 - Will ask for focus group with Planning Board and LDC, talk about building codes.
 - Marjorie - check Bedford bldg code.
 - Carol - ask them to make videos to show examples of climate risks, etc. for the workshops.
- Horan's Landing emergency sewer outflow
 - Letter requesting closure of outflow revised by Mayor, approved by BOT & sent to County
 - Should we send our own letter? Also request that the outflow be closed?
 - Letter from Village is enough. SSH fulfilled our role by advising the mayor. We can follow up with Mayor/BOT to see if there was a response.
 - Char - sees kids playing in sewage outflow. Don't want to negatively impact other villages, but it is a health risk and shouldn't wait until other munis get on board, village needs to ask for solution. Dave - letter is asking for that.
 - The current warning sign is too technical; there should be a plain language sign (English and Spanish) not to enter water after a rainfall.
 - Susanne - a group wants to test water for potential swimming access at Kingsland and also wants to test at Horan's.
 - Next step: January - start working group to draft proposed language for signage and next steps.

Review of 2023 Accomplishments and Sharing Ideas for 2024

- Zero Waste Campaign

- Gina:
 - Compost Giveback Day was a big hit
 - 5 online posts about food scraps, the village and schools helped promote them.
 - 1 video is up, 3 more are ready. Had them translated into Spanish, will go live soon. Ready to submit for CSC points.
 - Need someone to handle Facebook now that Judi is moving.
- Grant Applications for Recycling and Food Scrap Collection
 - Village applied for grant with other villages to study curbside pick up
 - Original grant to promote food scrap recycling was extended.
- Greening the Village & Stormwater Management (Susanne)
 - Natural Resources Inventory - Mt. Pleasant is doing another NRI which will include Sleepy Hollow. DEC had started doing one years ago, DEC finished one on their own. So now Mt. Pleasant CAC is doing it again. Sarah - SH can only get CSC points if we directly contribute to creating the NRI. Susanne - let's get a copy from Mt. Pleasant.
 - Water Smart Landscaping
 - Forestry / tree canopy
 - Green Infrastructure
 - Trustee Connell is interested in doing wildflower meadow on East Parcel since development is delayed there. Doesn't need much maintenance, mow once a year.
 - Susanne is going to work with Rachael and Edith.
- Fremont Pond Project
 - Nothing is happening. Renegotiating the contract. Village cleared some hedges so water would go into the catch basin. Village is supposed to manage the catch basin, but it apparently wasn't designed properly.
 - Village hasn't reappointed a stakeholder group yet.
- Pocantico River Watershed Alliance
 - Group led by Pace University, reaching out to Hudson River Watershed Alliance to get guidance. We are waiting to hear next steps for participating.
- Safe Streets for All
 - Promoting Liveable Tarrytowns pedestrian survey of dangerous intersections
 - Person was killed crossing Rt 9 at McKeel.
 - Survey being used to help push villages to increase safety.
 - Supporting development of Rivertowns Route 9 Bicycle Plan. NYS DOT doing Complete Streets study from Sleepy Hollow through Hastings, will have a meeting in 2 weeks with reps from each village. Old organizing

committee reconstituted, Anthony, Jared, and Dan are the 3 from SH, coordinating between the villages.

- Supporting Safe Routes to Schools project, a collaboration of the Villages of Sleepy Hollow & Tarrytown & the Tarrytowns School District - maybe can do things that are not covered by Rt 9 DOT work.
- Updating Sleepy Hollow's Complete Streets Policy, adopted in 2016. Sarah drafted an update, Anne made some additions. Will show to a couple of people before proposing to the Village.
- Village is contracting with a Transportation Planner
- Collaborations with other organizations
 - SH has finally timed free parking to coincide with Tarrytown
 - Chamber of Commerce working on getting Spanish speaking businesses to join.
 - TEAC - We should start in January to plan Earth Month with them.
 - Tarrytowns School District, Peabody Preserve, PTA, Eco Clubs
 - Riverkeeper
- Communications (Kiko)
 - Added 100 ppl to e-newsletter list.
 - Instagram account is up and running.
 - Looking for FB person.
 - Need to clarify identity around our name.
 - Upgrading the website, hard to do because someone else purchased the plan, when it's done will be called sustainablesleepyhollow.org.
 - Want to make sure our content is embedded throughout the new Village website.
 - Google Doc - add content for newsletter, Kiko will send out a link.
 - Village communications director is asking us what content we want to include.
 - Diana - the two food pantries are collaborating - we can use as another venue for sharing info.
 - Gina - need to get more analog because we don't have wide digital reach.
 - Diana - village 150th celebration - April 20, do a big promotion. Maybe plant 150 trees?
 - Anne - tabling at events, some challenges. In 2024, looking more strategically about where to table. And work closely with TEAC to partner at events.
- Community Garden (Marjorie Hsu)
 - Approached the mayor about spearheading a community garden. Working with Matt Arone and a small group. Diana and Rachael have joined.
 - Identified space at Barnhardt Park overlooking the river, which is an unused space. The pace is marked off. Looking for best practices - Hastings has a large community garden. Goal is to be up and running for

this spring. Planning a barrier layer because of soil contamination from the battery factory. Raised bed, and a garden shed with common tools, etc. 10x6 size. Uniform garden beds so it's accessible from both sides. Water source is still TBD from DPW. Likely to be piped from the senior center.

- Once they have that info they will present a budget to BOT. Should be around \$10,000.
 - Residents will get on a list to get a parcel. This is pent up demand from the Comp Plan. At least 25 families want a plot. If it works well, we could expand in the future.
 - Char - rainwater catch basins for watering? Marjorie - haven't discussed that. Starting point will be to see what DPW can offer. But rainwater is a good idea to look into.
- Anne presented certificates to Dave Avrin and Francois Rejeili for their contributions to SHEAC
 - Meeting was followed by a holiday celebration

Next meeting: Monday, January 8, 2024, at 7:30 pm at Village Hall (It's the 2nd Monday of the month, since the 1st is New Year's Day, a national holiday.)