

Sustainable Sleepy Hollow

Sept 9, 2024

Attendees: Kirsten, Susanne, Dan, Elizabeth, Leigh Oaks, Carol V. and Ginger Lidsky (8th grade), Kiko, Deb, Gina, Sarah, Anne, Arline, zoom: Rachael, Char

Notetaker: Sarah

1. Welcome back from the summer
 - a. Brief introduction and 1 “new and good” from the summer (related to sustainability or otherwise)
2. Shed announcement (Anne): next to the senior center, combination lock, houses our tabling materials.
3. Westchester power - renewable energy. BOT voted to enter contract for 100% renewable energy, people can opt out. Anne - SW is open to discussing the idea of offering it to Kendal. Maybe we can also ask to include the school district. Susanne can approach Brian Fried when the time is right.
Next WP Info Session on September 26th at 6:00pm at Warner Library.
4. Pollinator pathway resolution proposal - mayor signed pollinator’s pledge in April, we (SSH) should sign on and get on the list of pollinator pathway municipalities - to make it official. Vote: Approved for Susanne to sign on.
5. NYSERDA Zoning Code Review grant - VHB (also our CAP consultant) submitted a proposal to NYSERDA for a grant to do a pilot study of evaluating our building codes and zoning regulations to increase energy efficiency, etc.
 - a. VHB also doing study with Rivertowns for curbside compost pickup. How do we get updates on that?
6. Grant for municipal staff to spend 50% of their time on waste reduction/recycling, etc. Kirsten and Susanne are following up with Anthony. Grant due date is Oct 31.
7. CAP Report update - should have draft later this week to disseminate to key committee members/village officials. Then will revise and submit draft to be available for public comment.
8. Tree Commission update. \$15,000 of street trees coming in (100 trees) to plant - have been helping Kevin figure out what to order, evaluating sites. Door hangers to advertise events. A lot of planting starting in November - goal to plant in every neighborhood. Updated tree code being applied, making some small language changes now that they know more about how process is going with tree permits, etc. Will send info to go out in SSH newsletter.
 - a. Anne - issue at Kendal of tree tops getting cut off instead of pruning them.
Susanne - studying language to add to Code about harmful practices.
Greenburgh has model tree code that they are reviewing.

9. Lauren Connell request for plastic reduction resolution - how to address plastic giveaways, etc at village events?
 - a. Ideas discussed: make it more broad to include all village purchases; propose that all village sponsored events are zero waste; ask all vendors to provide compostable/zero waste products; use bamboo instead of plastic-y compostable products; also make sorting bins more visible at events to encourage the village to buy more.
 - b. Westport City Code as example
 - c. Can the village provide staff to manage waste bins?
 - i. Make it part of vendor responsibilities for chamber events, or have village staff for village events.
 - ii. Incorporate it into the grant for staff position mentioned in item 6 above.
 - d. Dan raised the issue that our events impact the Bee Line bus, 1 million people ride it every year.
 - i. Char - incentive to get public transit (free drink, etc.), can ask Beekman Ale House
 - ii. Dan will write up a list of transit options to get to events. Susanne will take it from there.
 - e. Anne - Kendal is doing Trex bench challenge - already has 300 pounds of plastic. Resident is also picking up plastic from C-Town.
 - i. Kiko - Wendy is starting a program at high school. Anne will email Kiko to get contact person at high school for her.
10. Andre Brook Trail community hike Sept 22 - Cathy Ruhland (TEAC) and Carol V. have been leading hikes. Learn how to walk from high school to the lakes. Will try to promote it more at the school. High school back parking lot at 9:30am on 9/22, ends at 11:30am. Will have vehicle transport on the way back if needed. Have been getting school officials to attend.
11. Walk and Bike to School Day Oct 8. Trying to get mayors/trustees involved.
12. Diana has students who join her at village hall after school, they need community service hours.
 - a. Maybe could employ them for waste bins at village events. Kiko will reach out to Diana and copy Kirsten and Kevin (DPW).
13. Route 9 project: State DOT has produced possible designs and is seeking feedback
 - a. Identical public meetings - Thursday (9/12) at Mercy College and next Thursday (9/19) at the Tarrytown Senior Center. 6:00 - 8:00. After parties - Beekman Ale House 9/19
 - b. Organizing a group bike ride to Mercy College meeting.
 - c. Feedback to give:

- i. Not all side streets that meet Rt 9 had crosswalks.
- ii. Need more median refuges.
- iii. Bike lanes don't look safe for kids, older adults. Narrow, right next to cars.
- iv. Exciting - DOT proposing to put a roundabout at each of our difficult intersections

14. Hellstrip planting - potential new policy

- a. Not everyone is clear whose property it is (village or property owner). Sean McCarthy told Carol that they might make it a formal policy that you can plant there given certain provisions.

15. Fall schedule / volunteer opportunities

- a. Route 9 Meetings in September
- b. 9/9 - Horan's Landing water testing and mini Riversweep - ongoing project. Grant funding 1 hour mini sweeps. Testing showing questionable quality, will have to think about how to present findings. Next clean up 10/5 at 10am. Then will start up again in April. Pace U is doing the testing.
- c. 9/14 - JP Doyle's block party (village-run)
- d. 9/21 - Eco Fair - Kiko and Arline can table. Kirsten can set up/break down. Anne can help too.
 - i. Rachael can collect milkweed pods, they would need to be separated, but TEAC usually does seed library.
 - ii. What's the big initiative that we want to promote?
 - 1. Fall leaf sustainable management (mulch leaves)
- e. 9/28 - Oktoberfest
- f. 10/5 - Street Fair (Chamber of Commerce), Kirsten will connect with Gina to coordinate.
- g. 10/12 - TaSH / Tree Comm. - Kirsten can table.
- h. 10/13 - SUP witches @ kingsland
- i. 10/18-19 - Hayrides (village-run)
- j. 11/2 - Fall Festival in Kingsland - pumpkin smash, corn maze part of 150th anniversary.

16. Misc - plantings at Devries Park are beautiful

17. Chromebook requirements at school

- a. Burden on families to charge them at home
- b. Physical burden on children - could develop scoliosis

- c. Head Up committee is making progress on reducing time on chromebooks
- 18. CompostEd field trip - Kirsten working on dates with Anthony and Kevin, might be a Friday in September
- 19. EPA released its 5 year review of Hudson clean-up. Looking for public comments until 10/8.
- 20. BOT considering a private curling club. We should look at it from a land use perspective. Char - it is zoned for pervious surface. Watch the last work session.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 7th