

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2010,
AT 8:00 P.M. AT THE VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK COURT ROOM, 169 MT. PLEASANT
AVENUE, MAMARONECK NY 10543.

Present: Sarah Robbins Evans, Katherine Kaneko, Ann Metcalfe, Jean Peron, Michaela Zeuss, Toni Ryan,
Liaison

Excused: Kate Hearst, Joan Heilman, Catherine Hiller, Elsa Puerto-Rubin

Unexcused: Tom O'Brien, Kevin LaFollette

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for October 19, 2010, meeting were approved with spelling changes.

Election Results: Toni reported that there is still no official results of election of November 2, 2010.

Reports of Subcommittees:

CFLs - Joan reported via email that CFLs contain mercury, although less than old thermometers. They must be taken to a Household Recycling Day or to Home Depot which now accepts them. They should not be placed in regular trash where they will be burned, and the mercury will be in the ash. Those collected at the recycling center: The Village should make an arrangement with a commercial company to take them, or take them to a Household Recycling Day. Should one break, the WC Dept. of Health recommendations can be found at w.westchestergov.com/health/mercury_what_to_do_if_spill.htm -the EPA has more complicated instructions.

Additions to plastic recycling numbers: beginning June, 2011 plastic containers with numbers 3-7 will be added to list of acceptable recyclables. Examples: yoghurt cups, food containers, molded plastics and mixed plastics.

Michaela reported that the final Household Waste Collection day at New Rochelle is this Friday, Nov. 19.

Climate and help with Communications- Catherine Hiller
No report.

Transportation – Kathryn Hearst, Katherine Kaneko and Michaela Zeuss.

Biking: Katherine K. will work with David Wilson of Westchester Bike Roads to discuss bike safety, bike lanes and placing "Share roads" –stencil on bike lanes. She will discuss making bike racks more convenient by placing a roof over the rack, and will talk to the MTA regarding improving bike parking. She will tour with David to determine which roads are suitable for bike-riding.

Katherine K. spoke to "Natco" about information on bike routes, (Bike-preferred streets,) which focuses on bike paths using side streets. She said there are communities which use strips of private property, deeded to municipality, for use as bike paths. She suggested posting bike signals on street and signs. Also, bike safety rules should be publicized for motorists and bikers.

Michaela is working on bike safety at schools and has contacted WC to give a presentation in schools. All school ages should be educated in bike safety. The PD can help also. She said other schools are working together to promote bike safety, e.g. Rye schools.

Toni said bike safety program could be done at Harbor Island. There will be a Bike Rodeo at schools to teach bike safety, and bike repair.

Community Outreach – Michaela , Sarah

Sarah said composting film editor is away.

ICLEI Audit –Jean reported that she is nearing the completion of the audit and is waiting for the New York Metropolitan Council to get back to her regarding CO₂ emissions from vehicular traffic on Village streets. She will then send the report to ICLEI for review.

New Business:

Attendance issue: The letters requesting the resignation of those members with three or more unexcused absences has not been sent.

Tree Committee: As there were questions as to the current status of this committee, it was determined that it is still a viable VOM committee.

Names of new members: Sarah requested that names and resumes of prospective new members be sent to her and Elsa.

Nomination of Committee Officials – Chair and/or co-chair. Although several committee members were asked to serve as co-chair, there has not been any definite decision as yet. This must be decided by December.

Need for No-Idling pamphlet/law in the VOM: At present, the VOM does not have its own law. Ann and Michaela will get other local laws from neighboring communities and tailor them to our own law for possible adoption by the Village. The members felt that attaching a fine will be an incentive for motorists to stop idling and for policemen to issue summonses.

Toni and the police chief visit: Chief Leahy will be coming to our December meeting. The issues to be brought up by the committee will be:

- Recycling in the PD
- Idling Law
- Leaf blowers

Rep from Larchmont's Environment Committee: Millie McGraw will be attending our December meeting.

Farmers' Market: Sarah will look into the readiness of the winter farmers' market to go forward.

Big Green Purse: The LWV is sponsoring a talk by the author of "The Big Green Purse," Diane MacEachern on December 6, 2010 at 7:30. Ms MacEachern is an award-winning eco-entrepreneur and best-selling author. The meeting place will be the AV room of MHS.

Website: Toni suggested that the committee discuss putting a link on the Village website similar to the webpage for the Council for the Arts, so that environmental information can be posted.

Next meeting date: To be determined

Respectfully submitted:

Jean Peron