

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT MEETING OF FEBRUARY 15, 2011, AT 8:00 P.M. AT THE VILLAGE HALL COURT ROOM , 169 MT. PLEASANT AVENUE, MAMARONECK, NY 10543

Present: Sarah Evans, Michaela Zeuss, Kate Hearst, Joan Heilman, Ann Metcalfe, Jean Peron, Monica Barach, Phil Horner, Cathy Hiller,

Excused: Toni Ryan, Liaison,

Unexcused: Katherine Kaneko

Guest: Richard Slingerland, Village Manager

Minutes of January 18, 2011 were approved.

The Committee welcomed Rich Slingerland.

Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan - Meeting – March 2, 2011. It is a community input meeting to update the Revitalization Plan.

He suggested it would be beneficial if the CFTE attended.

Rich Slingerland discussed the completion of the first milestone of the ICLEI report and asked the Committee to submit a formal report. He also asked that we go forward with the next step which, according to ICLEI, is to target the largest emitters of greenhouse gases. (Note: a subcommittee was formed to go on to the next milestone, its members includes Monica, Cathy, Phil and Jean.) He also mentioned several of the other green projects that his administration is involved in, e.g. receipt of a grant to change traffic lights to Light-Emitting Diode lights, which give off more light and uses less electricity. He said the Village is realizing that the vegetable oil used to run the “Veggie Truck” is now a commodity and becoming expensive.

Green Week Cleanup (possible date April 30) - Rich S. thinks there should be a focus on cleaning up rivers, creeks, neighborhoods and parks. He said tree-planting should be done at parks, schools and Harbor Island. He wants to plant 100 trees.

Recycling Area Report – Sarah and Joan visited the VOM Recycling Center at Fayette Avenue. Joan reported to Rich and the Committee on its condition. She said dumpsters are not marked for paper and cardboard, the dumpster for co-mingled items is no longer there. The dumpsters that are there are filled to the brim. They are marked “plastic and glass” – no mention of metal. There is an “E-Waste” dumpster, but no sign to instruct as to where to leave e-waste. Although there is a high-school student at the Center to keep it orderly, it remains rather messy; however, this year’s snow complicates matters.

Rich S. said he’s not sure of the amount citizen usage of that area and some thought is being given to closing it to the public.

There was also a discussion on the need for the second weekly trash pickup.

Jean requested that Rich consider placing a sign outside of Village Hall front door or thereabouts informing people that the printer cartridge, etc. recycling center is located at the Regatta.

Upon Rich's departure, the co-chairs thanked him for his time and his support of environmental efforts.

Begin Committee Agenda:

Recycling Committee: The Post Office will place recycling bins for people to use when discarding paper.

Anti Idling Law Update - Toni Ryan sent word to the Committee that, "At last night's Board Meeting we were supposed to set a date for a Public Hearing, but it was not on the Agenda. It should be on our next meeting (2/24) for that purpose. The Public Hearing is the opportunity for people to come to the meeting and give their input. The public hearing should be scheduled for our first meeting in March, 3/14. I will confirm this date to you."

Green Week- April 29 to May 6 – Besides the Cleanup Date mentioned above, the program for the week should include information on recycling bins, rain barrels. The merchants should be asked to donate "green" items and put up signs advertising Green Week.

Plastic Bags User Tax - Suzi Oppenheimer, State Assemblywoman, has sponsored an existing bill on plastic bag usage. Her bill would charge a two cents fee and use bags made from recycled materials. Sarah suggested waiting for actual verbiage of State Law before planning a letter-writing campaign. Kate said more information can be found on "inthebag.com"

Compost Film - Sarah now has footage and student to speak. The film will be shown at the Winter Farmer's Market. Also, Kate said the purchase of mulching mowers should be encouraged.

Website – Michaela will manage the website. She put a new calendar on our webpage specifically for the Committee's events.

Recycling Center at Village Hall – No mention is made in the yearly Recycling Brochure of the printer cartridge recycling center located at the Regatta. Next year's calendar should include that information. Jean will find out who composes the calendar and , when to submit the request for inclusion of the Printer Cartridge Recycling location in the brochure.

Announcements and Environmental News: Children's Health Forum at Hommocks on April 4th at 7:30. Speaker will be Maida Malvez.

The LWV will host a meeting with the same speaker on Friday, March 4th.

Phil said we should stay on top of the trends and agenda of fulltime environmental groups.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Peron
Next Meeting March 15, 2011

