

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2011 AT 8:00 P.M. AT THE VILLAGE HALL COURTROOM, 169 MT. PLEASANT AVENUE, MAMARONECK, NY 10543

PRESENT: Sarah Evans Michaela Zeuss, Phil Horner, Jean Peron, Kate Hearst, Catherine Hiller, Marc Karell, Joan Heilman, Monica Barach Toni Ryan (Liaison)

ABSENT: Ann Metcalfe

The minutes of August 16, 2011 were approved.

Subcommittee Reports:

Recycling Committee: Joan will work with Richard Slingerland, Village Manager, and Dan Sarnoff, Assistant Village Manager, to rewrite and update the Village recycling brochure. Joan will get recycling brochures for handouts from Westchester County. She said tennis cans are recyclable and clubs should be informed. There is no change at the Village Recycling Center.

Communications – Website: Kate emailed Rye regarding linking to Rye website. Michaela requested items to be put on website and would like our website to link to more local, school and municipal website. Monica suggested we link to LMC-TV and the Daily Patch. Michaela said we should send press releases to eliminate having to search for our website.

Transportation: Kate said the bike path is now in place throughout the County.

Community Outreach Patch Report: Michaela contacted Mamaroneck Avenue School and may have a possible new member with PR expertise for our committee. Marc suggested contacting MHS students re environmental events such as “Green Clubs” – adding that liaisons are important for each school

Energy Audit: The Village has compiled a list of municipal energy-saving projects, both completed and on-going. She requested a copy. The Village also arrived at a municipal energy emission reduction percentage and date: 5% reduction by year 2015. Jean will inform ICLEI that the VOM has completed the second milestone. Marc suggested calculating actual cost savings of green projects. Marc has joined the energy subcommittee.

Old Business:

Plastic Bag Law: Kate suggested our committee wait for Rye’s Sustainability Committee to put this law before the Rye Board and use it as an example for our law. Rye will present a series of environmental movies. The first will be “Bag It” about the plastic bag law.

LWRP:

A new draft of the LWRP revision has been issued and will be sent to the Secretary of State for their comments. The time frame has been pushed back from the end of 2011 to next year. There will be a third meeting and then a final draft will be presented at a public hearing. Phil said that there was less public input than expected. He said the revision is divided into sections, and suggest we look at Section IV, as the entire report is rather big. It contains programs specific to the VOM which should be pursued, such as proposed land uses and proposed projects. The community can have input into this phase. Ideas from the community should be sent to Rich Slingerland. Phil will bring a LWRP status report to next meeting (since he will be away for next meeting, he may email it to the committee.)

EPA – Richard Slingerland and Dan Sarnoff, Assistant Village Manager, composed a letter in reply to the administrative order sent by the EPA to the VOM. The administrative order had noticed the VOM that it is in violation of the Clean Water Act, based on wet weather samplings in September, 2010 in which high levels of fecal coli form were found. The VOM has not yet received and answer. Toni said that a new engineering firm has been hired to correct illegal sewer hookups around the Harbor.

Rich Slingerland said that there is no need for a Water Quality subcommittee right now, but may be in the future when NYS gives guidelines. He said the strength of our committee is community involvement in Village cleanup and environmental education. Cathy suggested that local publicity be used to encourage keeping the waters clean.

No-Idling Law: No information as yet from the Police Chief.

Leaf-Blower Law: Enforcement is very difficult, and so far there has been none.

11-11-11 Library Event: An event sponsored by the CTFE does not need to be held on this date, but we should celebrate our new library with an event. Cathy suggested a film series and she will look into it.

Announcements and Environmental News:

- a) Members of the CTFE have been invited to join with Rye in a tour of the Municipal Recycling Facility (MRF) in Yonkers on Monday, October 17, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Next Meeting: October 18, 2011.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Peron