

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28, 2012 AT 8:00 P.M. AT THE PAVILION AT HARBOR ISLAND, MAMARONECK, NY 10543

PRESENT: Michaela Zeuss, Sarah Evans, Monica Barach, Cathy Hiller, Joan Heilman, Marc Karell, Ann Breen Metcalfe, Shonna Koegan, Jean Peron, Toni Ryan, Liaison to BOT

ABSENT: Phil Horner

The minutes of January 17, 2012 were approved

Subcommittee Reports:

Recycling Committee: Joan said that she met with Richard Slingerland, Village Manager, and Tony Iacovelli, Superintendent of Public Works, at the VOM Recycling Center to discuss ways to improve it. Although new dumpsters (such as a large one for mixed recyclables) cannot be added because of space problems, the DPW will make signs to place in front of each dumpster or trailer, listing the acceptable and non-acceptable items that may be dropped there. They should be put up in a few weeks. DPW will also paint the two small dumpsters designated for plastics, glass and metal and erect appropriate signs for them.

Communications: Publicity for the Green Screen Film Festival is going well. Lorax film will be well-attended.

Transportation: (No-Idling Day) So far some of the Rye Schools, Rye Country Day School and Chatsworth and Mamaroneck Schools in the VOM are on board for the “No Idling” Day on April 23, 2012. There will be a competition among the schools for the most parents signing up for no idling.

Energy Audit: Update: The second step of the ICLEI milestones has been registered with ICLEI. Jean will email ICLEI regarding the third step, “Develop Local Climate Action Plan “

Old Business:

Water Quality Subcommittee: See Phil’s Water Quality Subcommittee Minutes and Organizational Notes following these minutes.

EPA Water Quality Update: Toni said the EPA has accepted our proposal to comply with the standards issued in the letter of March 11, 2011 which stated we were not in compliance with water quality standards. She said the VOM will be hiring an engineer to deal with this matter, and will move forward when this is done.

No Idling Day. (See Transportation)

Banning Plastic Bags: Monica gave copies of the proposed law and requested comments corrections. Toni added that the law should state that warnings be given to violators before fines are collected. Also the C of C can more cheaply place a bulk-order of the bags to sell to vendors. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of submitting the proposed law for review by the BOT. See below for proposed law.

New Business:

Village Clean Up Day – April 21 – will be discussed at March meeting.

Update and Assignments for Green Screen Film Festival. The Committee discussed the logistics for the upcoming Film Festival. The “glass” wine glasses and small white plates purchased by the Committee will be stored at the library for future use. Cathy said she has received \$2600 and \$500 from donations totaling \$3100. See below for Green Screen Program listing.

Do Right Group – Michaela will look into this group, a small group of parents at the Rye Neck MS, which would like to discuss our committee’s projects and efforts.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Peron

Next Meeting March 20, 2012

See following pages for addenda to minutes

CTFE Minutes of February 28, 2012

Phil Horner's minutes:

Subject: Water Quality Sub-committee - Minutes

Here are some quasi-minutes of our organizing discussion about the Sub-committee. Also attached is a draft Organizing document that I was asked to write. I suggest using it at the next CFTE Meeting.

Present: Sarah E, Marc K, Jean P, Philip H, Katherine D., invited guest

Issues for follow up as we agreed:

Edit Scope and Mission Statement that was circulated in my Nov 17 email (Phil, see attached)

LWRP: suggest wording to the LWRP formally recognize the CFTE Sub-committee as having an ongoing role in following water pollution issues in the Village (PH)

Start contacting other water related environmental groups and communities that have improvement programs

 Arrange a meeting with Mamaroneck Town Supervisor (N.S.). (Sarah)

 Identify which Groups or communities to contact about our interest (All to make suggestions)

Savin Report 2007 County Sewers Investigation Report (Two Village neighborhoods)

 Read, make copies and circulate to others. Will discuss follow up questions and actions. (Phil for the Sub-committee)

 Identify other key past documents to pursue what happened to their recommendations. (Katie Desmond as a resource to the Sub-committee)

Annual River Clean up Day: Firm up date, see what the Village Manager is planning,. IDEA; expand community involvement as a first step in our new mission. (Sarah)

Phil Horner's Water Quality Notes:

Committee for the Environment Water Quality Sub-committee Organizing Statement

Membership: Sarah Evans, Jean Peron, Marc Karell, Philip Horner - Chair

Mission:

The Committee for the Environment has voted to establish a sub-committee of its members to provide continuing attention to water pollution issues that arise in Mamaroneck Village's rivers and Long Island Sound shorefront. The sub-committee will carry out the following functions.

Research of Developments

- Communicate with, learn about and pass along ideas to the Village from Environmental Organizations and other communities with interesting water quality programs.

Education of the Public

- Inform citizens and businesses about best practices, laws and rules concerning water pollution issues.
- Help organize local beautification and clean up programs for our rivers and beaches

Advocacy and Monitoring of Village Projects to Improve Water Quality

- Make suggestions and give input to the Board of Trustees, Village management and other Village Committees on water quality environmental issues.
- Monitor programs approved for action by the Village Board and other legal entities that mitigate water pollution problems (sanitary and storm sewer programs, developments at the County Sewage Treatment Plant, etc)

NOTE on FOCUS: The Sub-committee will not focus on flooding issues except flood mitigation projects with major environment impact. The Sub-committee will also not be involved in property use permits or laws which may involve the rivers or water front property unless asked for an opinion by the Village.



Presented by the Village of Larchmont and the Village and Town of Mamaroneck

Saturday March 3, 10 am: **THE LORAX**: New Disney Feature Film at Larchmont Clearview Theater. Free tree seedlings courtesy of Con Ed.

Saturday, March 3rd at **Mamaroneck Library**, 2 pm: **BAG IT**. Speaker: Sara Goddard, chair of the City of Rye Sustainability Committee, which passed the first retail shopping bag ordinance in Westchester County. Bring in the most clean plastic bags for the Larchmont-Mamaroneck Hunger Task Force and win a prize.

Sunday, March 4th at the **Village Center** (beside the Larchmont Library), 2 pm: **FRESH**. Speaker: **FRESH** Director Ana Sofia Joanes. Community picnic to follow.

Monday, March 5th, at **Mamaroneck Town Center** (Conference Room C), 7:30 pm: **NO IMPACT MAN**. Speaker: **NO IMPACT MAN** Co-Director Justin Schein.

Saturday, March 10th at **Mamaroneck Library** DOUBLE BILL:
1 pm: **EXTREME ICE**. NOVA, A National Geographic television special
2 pm **FLOW**: For the Love of Water.

Sunday, March 11th at the **Village Center** (beside the Larchmont Library), 2 pm: **GASLAND**. On fracking. Speaker: Paul Gallay, President, Riverkeeper.

Monday, March 12 at Mamaroneck Town Center (Conference Room C), 7:30 pm: **CARBON NATION**. Speaker: George Klein, chair, Sierra Club Lower Hudson Group

*There will be refreshments at all screenings except **THE LORAX**.
All events except **THE LORAX** are free.
Tickets to **THE LORAX** are \$5 for adults and children;
Please preregister for this film at <http://greenscreenlorax.eventbrite.com>*

Supporters: Friends of the Larchmont Library, Green Mountain Energy, Gerald & Marlene Kolbert, Murphy Brothers Contracting, Diane Neff Architect PLLC, Wine Gems.
Friends: At Home on the Sound, Enopi Learning Center, Ink It Up Printers, Judy Myers, Larchmont Library, Larchmont Garden Club, League of Women Voters, Mamaroneck Library, Mamaroneck Chamber of Commerce, Sheldrake Environmental Center, Trader Joe's.
<http://web.me.com/jlsteinmetz1>

PROPOSED LAW TO BAN USE OF PLASTIC BAGS

VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK LOCAL LAW NO. __ OF 2012

A Local Law to add Chapter ___ Retail Checkout Bags” to the Village Code to encourage the use of reusable checkout bags and prohibit the use of plastic bags for retail checkout of purchased goods

Section __. Chapter ___ Retail Checkout Bags

§ __. Purpose.

The intent of this ordinance is to improve the environment in the Village of Mamaroneck by encouraging the use of reusable checkout bags and banning the use of plastic bags for retail checkout of purchased goods. Retail establishments are encouraged to make reusable bags available for sale.

§ __. Justification.

Non-biodegradable plastic bags often are discarded into the environment and end up polluting our waterways, clogging sewers, endangering marine life and causing unsightly litter. These bags last hundreds of years in landfills and are a potential source of harmful chemicals when they do break down.

§ __. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this Division, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section:

CHECKOUT BAG - a carryout bag that is provided to a customer at the point of sale. The term "checkout bag" does not include plastic produce bags or plastic bags measuring 28" by 36" or larger in size.

PLASTIC PRODUCE BAG - a bag made of very thin plastic used to transport produce, meats or other items selected by customers to the point of sale.

GARMENT BAG – a large plastic bag with two openings that is used to transport clothing from a dry cleaner,

RETAIL SALES - the transfer to a customer of goods in exchange for payment occurring in retail stores, sidewalk sales, farmers' markets, flea markets and restaurants. The term "retail sales" does not include sales of goods at yard sales, tag sales, other sales by residents at their home, and sales by not-for-profit organizations.

RECYCLABLE PAPER BAG - a paper bag that should have the following characteristics: (1) contains no old growth fiber; (2) is 100% recyclable overall and contains a minimum of 40% post-consumer recycled content; and (3) displays the words "Reusable" and "Recyclable" on the outside of the bag.

REUSABLE BAG - a bag with handles that is specifically designed and manufactured for multiple reuse and is: (1) made of cloth or other fabric; and/or (2) made of durable plastic that is at least 2.25 mils thick.

§ _____. Restriction on checkout bags.

- A. Any person engaged in retail sales shall provide only reusable bags and/or recyclable paper bags as checkout bags to customers.

- B. Nothing in this section shall preclude persons engaged in retail sales from making reusable bags available for sale to customers.

§ _____. Effective date.

This Chapter shall become effective six (6) months following its adoption to allow retail establishments to dispose of their existing inventory of plastic checkout bags and convert to alternative packaging materials.

§ _____. Penalties for offenses; continuing violations.

- A. In the event that there is noncompliance with this chapter, the owner of the property or the owner's agent or the person performing such violation shall be notified in writing and shall forthwith stop with the violating activity. Such notice shall be in writing and may be served upon a person to whom it is directed either by delivering it

personally to him or her or by posting same upon a conspicuous portion of the property and sending a copy of same by certified mail.

B. The penalty for each violation shall be up to \$150.00.

C. Each occurrence of a violation, and each day that such violation continues, shall constitute a separate violation and shall be subject to a separate penalty and may be cited as such.

Section 2. This local law will take effect six months upon filing in the Office of the Secretary of State.