

Meeting Minutes Village of Mamaroneck Committee for the Environment October 20, 2015

Attendees:

K. Carpenter, P. Horner, M. Karell, M. Hain, D. Finch, G. Cutler, J. Heilman, M. Barach, M. Karsou, S. Richards

1. Minutes from September meeting approved.
2. CFTE composition for next year discussed as 4 members will finish their term. S. Keogan is stepping down upon completion of term. C. Goldberg is taking C. Hiller's role as she has stepped down. M. Karsou and J. Heilman are undecided as to whether they will continue for another term. M. Karell offered to step down to allow another member to co-chair and he would continue as a regular participant.

3. Water Sub-Committee - P. Horner

EPA Violation: Village asked to be relieved of the violation but outcome of request is unknown; R. Slingerland Water Quality letter is late which would outline this response. MS4 report – P. Horner requested procedural letter to provide update on status 6 months ago and we await this response. Updated version of software called Muncity which would facilitate record-keeping has not been delivered. Current, lower version used but does not provide needed features therefore Village continues to keep manual records for MS4. The website has a URL to report water quality issues:

http://www.village.mamaroneck.ny.us/Pages/MamaroneckNY_WaterQuality/index

then select "Report a Stream or Beach Issue"

DEC Violation: I&I flow to sewage treatment plant (typically during heavy rain periods); Board passed \$300K resolution to take action including inspection to determine leaking pipes and leaders. Required to check when house changes hands or residents agree to allow inspection. Arcadis must report to Village the records of any locations they check. Sump pumps connected to sanitary drain is the primary issue causing issues with water treatment facilities.

Village Webpage: requested mobile version, want to add photo capture capabilities, and a notification that the submitted info is made available to the public.

Entirely new website requested is on hold due to financial constraints. Existing MamaroneckGreen.org site improvements needed, and M. Hain volunteered to pick up this action with Dan and Greg.

Save the Sound: published data and scheduled meetings with the Village and Sarah Evans at 2pm on Tuesday (additional attendees: Phil, Rich, Kevin from Arcadis); notice of intent due to problematic areas at upper and lower Beaver Swamp near Rye Neck HS.

4. Energy Sub-Committee – M. Karell

All street lights in the Village are planned to change to LED and this plan is now being implemented.

5. Recycling Sub-Committee – J. Heilman

Meeting Minutes Village of Mamaroneck Committee for the Environment October 20, 2015

Visit to the Village Recycling Center will be scheduled by Rich; G. Cutler attended meeting with staff to discuss ways to use the space more efficiently. Much heavy equipment must be parked in the vicinity which takes space away from the recycling area. Mary Shiffer is sketching out ideas to rearrange.

Fabric Recycling: Bin has been set up at the Toy Box (success!) and publicity is now needed to ensure the bin is used. Committee members recommended email blast, sign (M. Hain volunteered to design), display case next to CVS, and school newsletter. Discussed the possibility of either 2nd bin in the newly organized recycling center or to move the original bin. Company will not provide a 2nd bin unless the original bin is used to capacity or need is otherwise proven, and either would require new contract.

6. Quality of Life Sub-Committee – S. Richards

Now that Community Garden is up and running, need to ensure full participation from those who signed up. Currently only C. Goldberg (who has also volunteered to lead the Community Garden) is actively using a plot. Suggestion made to create a wait list and require anyone not actively using their plot to forfeit the right after a determined period. Discussion ensued over the need for signage and M. Hain offered to design a logo; G. Cutler to provide dimensions.

UPDATE: Colin has reached out to the Community Resource Center (CRC) and met with the director Gail Vidales as well as provided a tour to discuss the garden and understand how to encourage better use of the plots. The CRC has now committed to 4 plots, and providing signed waivers. This leaves 7 plots open (I believe) for new gardeners.

7. Outreach Sub-Committee – M. Karell

Town of MMK Charrette – M. Karell attended and the topic of leaf blowers was discussed. Under consideration are by the Town is to mandate use of models which have reduced noise levels (65 decibel maximum) to be used during the appropriate season when allowed.

Calendar - M. Hain presented a draft version of the calendar he and L. Holbrook created to be used for promotion of events and notifications (such as the leaf blower ban timing). Initial reaction is very positive! Any suggested changes please contact Martin and Laura.

8. Marine Education Center Advisory Board – new members Martin and Phil start January 1. (Grateful for their continued service!)

9. Enforcement of erosion/sediment control rules at various construction sites P. Horner: this is tied to the MS4; per G. Cutler 3 people will have been trained by ? date (need additional info please).

Meeting Minutes Village of Mamaroneck Committee for the Environment October 20, 2015

10. NYSDEC NOV - release of crushed stone in Harbor Island Park (tennis courts)
3 Automatic pump system bids all came in too high (would provide short-term fix); not expecting solution in place for this calendar year. This issue has existed for over 12 years; MMK engineer is in contact with DEC.
Is Village at risk for a fine? The NOV Order would indicate dates of required action – need this info.
Some particulate is caught w/the regular system. Village is responsible for any fine (not SportTime) as Village owns the land.
11. Ban on Chickens – M. Barach
Currently there is no prohibition and Monica proposes to define the ability to raise chickens in the Village; Monica to send draft resolution to D. Finch; discussion ensued regarding roosters and fights (both should be prohibited). Note: pigeon racing is illegal.
12. Early planning for 2016 campaign against fertilizer and pesticide runoff into Sound
Leaf bagging for this fall in Washingtonville – G. Cutler explained the notices of pilot and bags have been distributed to the residents of Washingtonville.
Leaf mulching campaign for this fall – Flyer has already been designed and signs created last year. S. Richards will draft letter to Rich for distribution to landscapers. M. Barach to edit/update LELE (Love ‘em and leave ‘em) form.
13. Deer – Ad hoc committee need sounding board; need to measure size of the deer issue; M. Hain has attended meetings in the past. This issue need not be addressed by CFTE anymore.
14. Community Choice Aggregated supplier for utilities – M. Karell
Monday agenda; hearing Nov 9; if Village registers, individuals can sign on to speak up to request other suppliers; Westchester community considering this and sustainable Westchester website has additional info:
<http://www.sustainablewestchester.org/hidden-latest-news/69-faq-on-community-choice-aggregation>