

Village of Mamaroneck • Committee for the Environment
AGENDA
April 19, 2022 @7 pm via Zoom

General Discussion/Announcements:

- Vote to approve minutes from March 2022 meeting
- Larchmont Environmental Committee Earth Day event – April 23rd 1 – 4pm Constitution Park
- Town of Rye Planting Day – Columbus Park 9 – 11 am; Native Plant and Pollinator Presentation 11:30 am at the Portchester-Rye Brook public library
- Guest speaker – Sara Powell, NY Sea Grant and Long Island Sound Study
<https://longislandsoundstudy.net/about/committees/sustainable-and-resilient-communities-work-group/>

Healthy Yards

- Discuss preparation for leaf blower ban which begins May 15th
- Mayor Monarch Pledge – discuss planned actions
- Discuss whether the Village should enact legislation to only allow native plantings on Village owned property.
- No Mow May

Community Engagement:

- Central School Earth Day – April 22nd 3- 4 pm
- Clean and Green – May 7th – Need team captains

River Maintenance:

- Regular Clean -ups with Kyle and Debbie
- Update on Village actions – May 18th ACE presentation at Emelin theater 7 pm

Clean Energy Communities/Climate Smart Communities:

- Update of NY Stretch Code
- Parks Dept. Electric maintenance equipment
- AGZA Green Zone
- Village rooftop solar installation - DPW
- Village Fleet inventory

Food Scrap Recycling:

- 243 sign-ups as of April 6th
- New signage indicating pickup service; banner for Clean and Green and other events

Public Comment:

- Public comments to be allowed at the end of each meeting. Each person limited to 10 minutes unless otherwise agreed to by the CFTE.

**Draft VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
MINUTES OF March 15, 2022 MEETING**

Members Present: Ellen Silver (Chair), Lou Young (Village Trustee), Christi Young, Mandy Forlenza Sticos, David Freeman, Dan Kushnick, Liam Robb O'Hagan, Katherine Dehais, Renee Crabtree, Debbie Sullivan.

Members Absent: Tim Whitney.

The meeting was held via Zoom and was called to order at 7:05 pm.

General Discussion

The minutes of the Committee's February 15, 2022 meeting were approved.

Ellen announced that LED light bulbs were purchased with some of the \$5000 CEC campaign grant money. The Larchmont-Mamaroneck Task Force distributed them with a bilingual flyer that explained the energy savings benefits of the bulbs at this past week's food distribution. Remaining bulbs will be distributed again next week.

Ellen brought up a letter writing campaign started by a Mamaroneck School District parent to promote transitioning to the use of diesel gas powered school buses with electric ones in the upcoming budget. She will send out a sample letter to send to Dr. Shaps for anyone who is interested.

Healthy Yards

Mandy opened a discussion about a Mamaroneck Library Author Event to promote Monarch awareness. She and Ellen have spoken to Library staff about organizing a Zoom event with author Ann Hobbie. It was decided that it would be best hold the event in the fall. Ellen and Mandy will follow up with the Library.

Ellen asked for ideas for slogans for the Litter Awareness Campaign. She wants to kick off the campaign with the May 7 Clean and Green. Christie suggested that we have multiple slogans. We discussed the use of metal or vinyl signs and to have signage on trash cans. David brought up the placement of household trash in bins as a problem. Lou stated that this is an on-going problem and should be addressed with violations rather than prevent the placement of additional bins. Ellen asked about the scheduling of pickups of trash from community bins. Lou will follow up to find out how pickups are scheduled. He suggested that the Committee be very specific about placement of the bins, signage in communicating with the Village.

The leaf blower ban starts May 15th. Enforcement has been an issue in the past. Ellen will raise the issue with Jerry Barberio about the law and enforcement. Mandy will add a firefly graphic to our website to further encourage families to avoid destroying their habitat. Last year the Village put door hangers out explaining the law and the harm that leaf blowers inflict. Ellen raised the possibility of LED signage to promote the law.

Community Engagement

The Clean and Green is scheduled for May 7. The zones will include riverbeds, less emphasis on Harbor Island which gets cleaned regularly. Free compost will be given away. The Marine Education Center will be collaborating. Robert Ingenito will do a flyer about the event. Mandy raised the issue of teenagers being more closely supervised.

Ellen and Mandy will be attending the Central Avenue School Earth Day on April 22 from 3-4.

River Maintenance will be discussed more fully once we know the status of the grant application for the Pollinator Pathways project.

Clean Energy Communities/Climate Smart Communities update

Ellen and Dan attended a Sustainable Westchester webinar on Building Decarbonization and Advancing Clean Energy Codes which discussed the NY Stretch Code. The mayor of New Rochelle spoke to endorse the code. Buildings account for $\frac{1}{3}$ of all carbon emissions in NY State.

Liam and Ellen opened a discussion of the NYStretch Code which they are both in favor of the Village adopting. If the Village adopts it by June 2022, we can apply for a \$5000 grant. The code will be a NY state law in a few years. David asked about building cost increases associated with the code. Liam stated that, according to Sustainable Westchester, additional costs are made up in 6.4 years in energy cost savings for residential buildings, and in 3-13 years for commercial spaces. After further discussion, a resolution was passed unanimously to recommend that the Board adopt the NYStretch Code. Lou will bring it to the next work session (2 weeks). Liam will see about having NYSERDA present at the next Trustees meeting (3/24/22).

Ellen reported that Jeff Ahne of the Parks department is enthusiastic about transitioning to electric equipment. There is about \$6200 left from the CEC campaign grants which will be put toward an electric mower. Ellen would like to see the Village have an AGZA Green Zone once we get equipment.

A discussion was opened about a Village rooftop installation. Lou recently visited the Town of Clarkstown where they have a pollinator/solar combination on a landfill. The possibility of different sites in the Village were discussed including Taylor's Lane. The Committee agrees that we support any action on solar that the Village undertakes.

Jerry Barberio sent Ellen an inventory of the village fleet. There are not a lot of electric vehicles. She will follow up to get all the information that is needed for CSC credit.

Food Scrap Recycling

The Village started a pilot program of food scrap pick up. Two DPW workers pick up using a flatbed truck. Ellen and Liam accompanied them for part of the first day. Two hundred and eight households participated; now there are 222 signed up. On the first day, pick-up had to be continued on the following day. They have now asked that the containers be placed closer to the curb to save time. Ellen stated that it is important to continue with data collection, and has asked how this is being done. It has to be clarified how questions about the program need to be fielded.

No Mow May

Mandy states she will put an announcement on our Facebook and Instagram pages about No Mow May, a program to encourage leaving lawns unmowed to protect insect populations.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

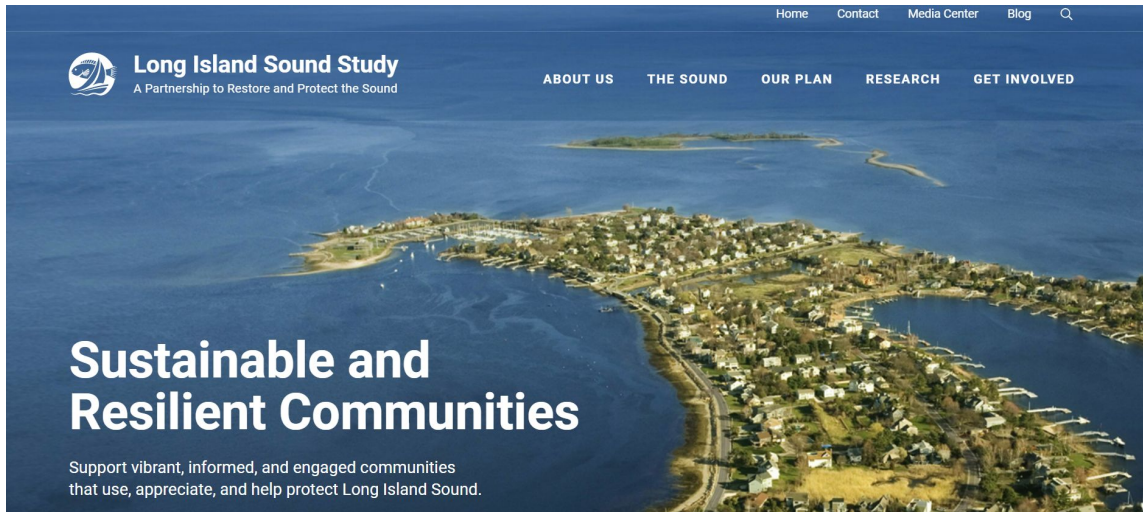
Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Sullivan

Long Island Sound Study Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Sara Powell

Westchester County Extension Professional



Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Support vibrant, informed, and engaged communities that use, appreciate, and help protect Long Island Sound.



2020-2024 LISS CCMP Update

Four Themes:

- Clean Waters and Healthy Watersheds
- Thriving Habitats and Abundant Wildlife
- Sustainable and Resilient Communities
- Sound Science and Inclusive Management

A Sustainable and Resilient Long Island Sound Community is one which can anticipate and overcome disturbances, while achieving well-being for all.

Better coordinated regional response

Better trained community decision makers

Infrastructure improvements planning

Viability of government services

Facilitated implementation

Work Plan Tasks

Year 1

Years 2-5

Conduct
Needs
Assessment

Develop
Clearinghouse

Hold
Annual
Workshops

Deliver
Training
Programs

Improve
Coordination

Support
compound
flood risk
modeling

Create
Project
Pipeline

Break
Down
Barriers

Long Island Sound Futures Fund is now open

Grant funding available: \$50,000 to \$1.5 million

Eligible Applicants: Non-profit 501(c) organizations, state government agencies, local government, municipal government, Indian tribes, and educational institutions.

Proposal Deadline: May 19, 2022, feedback on a project proposal available-submit a project pre-application form by April 22.

More info:
<https://www.nfwf.org/programs/long-island-sound-futures-fund>



Oyster castles that are part of a LISS Futures Fund NYC Parks tidal wetlands restoration project at Alley Pond Park, Douglaston/Queens, NY.

Needs Assessment/I'd love to know...

Goal: *Understand how LISS can support communities' sustainability and resilience efforts*

- What are the concerns/threats facing the Village of Mamaroneck?
- What is the Village/community doing regarding those threats and what challenges/barriers are you facing?
- What support is needed to overcome those barriers?
- Who else should I talk to?



Davenport Park, New Rochelle

Thank you!

Sara Powell

LISS SRC Extension Professional

New York Sea Grant

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