

Village of Mamaroneck • Committee for the Environment

AGENDA

December 21, 2021, 7:00 pm via Zoom

General Discussion/Announcements:

- Vote to approve minutes from November 2021 meeting
- Welcome to Katherine Dehais

Clean Energy Communities/Climate Smart Communities:

- Update on November 16 Meeting and Activities

Climate Emergency Declaration

Food Scrap Recycling:

- Resolution Encouraging VOM Consideration of Weekly Curbside Pickup – David

Pollinator Pathway Projects – Renee

River Maintenance and Flooding – Katherine

Update on New Tree Ordinance

Conservation Plaques at Harbor

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.

**VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK
CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY TASK FORCE
MINUTES OF November 16, 2021 MEETING**

Members Present: Ellen Silver (Acting Chair), David Freeman, Dan Kushnick, Liam Robb O'Hagan, Tim Whitney, Debbie Sullivan.

Village Liaison Present: Mayor Tom Murphy

The meeting was held via zoom, called to order at 8:00 pm.

General Discussion

Eleanor Peck, the NY State Clean Energy Community Coordinator was introduced. She is able to help with understanding the CEC and Climate Smart Community programs, applying for credits and grants through the programs, and with setting priorities.

She presented a slideshow on the Climate Smart Community Program. Two mandatory actions for the CSC program are to establish a task force and to appoint a coordinator. There is an excel spreadsheet in the CSC documents to help document actions that have already been taken and then prioritize actions to be taken.

Ellen reported that she has been through the CSC action list and believes a number of the items have already been achieved by the Village. Tom will follow up with Dan Sarnoff and Jerry Barberio to see who can work with us to review the action list. We are asking for a review of the items to identify those which (a) have been completed, and for which we have obtained credit; (b) have been completed, and for which we have not obtained credit; (c) can be reasonably easily completed with existing staff and budget authority; and (d) which they believe should otherwise be a priority for action by the Task Force or the Village. This is to be reviewed at the next meeting. Ellen pointed out some of the items that have been met: a social media presence of the committee, the establishment of a conservation area, a Village comprehensive plan with a sustainability section, compost bins.

Dan Kushnick asked that the Village follow up on the installation of new electric vehicle charging stations. These are virtually fully paid for by grants.

David Freeman nominated Ellen Silver to be the Acting Coordinator of the CSC Task Force. He motioned that she be recommended to the Board as the Coordinator of the CSC Task Force. The motion was unanimously approved. David will follow up with a letter to the Board.

The next meeting will be scheduled after the Village gives us feedback on the status of the items on the CSC action list as discussed above.

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Sullivan

**VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK
COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
RESOLUTION REGARDING FOOD SCRAP RECYCLING PICKUP**

WHEREAS, the Village of Mamaroneck (“VOM”) has in place a robust program for recycling of food scraps; and

WHEREAS, to date, the VOM’s program relies on either individual residents personally transporting their food scraps to the VOM recycling site on Fayette Avenue, or on the pickup of food scraps on a weekly basis by ASAP Scraps (“ASAP”); and

WHEREAS, ASAP has provided a substantial percentage of the food scraps collected by the VOM Fayette Avenue facility; and

WHEREAS, ASAP has announced that it is ceasing operations as of January 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, commercially available services for performing these activities are available, but at a far higher cost than ASAP is currently charging; and

WHEREAS, in the absence of ASAP’s continued operations, over 100 of its customers will need either personally to take their food scraps to the Fayette Avenue facility, increasing automotive traffic at the facility, or pay a much higher charge to commercial services to perform this function;

WHEREAS, either alternative will likely reduce the amount of food scraps collected and composted in the VOM, with a consequent adverse effect on both our environment and the cost of disposing of VOM’s municipal waste; and

WHEREAS, the collection of food scrap waste is a legitimate and environmentally beneficial municipal function, performed by a number of other municipalities in Westchester County and subsidized by the Westchester County government; and

WHEREAS, the Committee for the Environment (“Committee”) strongly believes that it is in the best interest of the VOM to continue and expand the amount of food scraps collected and the level of participation in food scrap recycling by VOM residents, for both environmental and budgetary reasons;

NOW THEREFORE, the Committee urges that the VOM Board of Trustees give serious consideration, taking into account budgetary and other constraints, to commencing the weekly curbside collection of food scraps on a no-cost or low-cost basis for the residents of the VOM, and that it commence such service at the earliest practicable opportunity.

**VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16, 2021 MEETING**

Members Present: Ellen Silver (Chair), David Freeman, David Styler, Renée Crabtree, Dan Kushnick, Liam Robb O'Hagan, Debbie Sullivan, Tim Whitney, Mandy Forlenza Sticos, Christi Young

Also Present: Tom Murphy (Mayor, Village of Mamaroneck)

Member absent: Maria Karsou

The meeting was held via Zoom and called to order at 7:00 pm.

General Discussion

The minutes of the Committee's October 19th, 2021 meeting were approved.

Ellen noted that David Styler and Maria Karsou were leaving the Committee and thanked them for their many years of service. David Freeman proposed a resolution, which the Committee passed, thanking David and Maria for their years of service to the Village and to the Committee.

Ellen noted that the Fall Clean and Green/Shred Day event was very successful. This was the first fall clean up organized by the Committee and 140 volunteers participated. A number of suggestions were made to improve the effectiveness of these events in future, including having a map of the clean-up zones, having an information sheet with general instructions, possibly adding a zone behind Grove Street along the banks of the Mamaroneck River and other areas along the Sheldrake and Mamaroneck Rivers that are easily accessible. Tom noted that the Department of Works should be contacted prior to the clean up to find out which areas that need more attention.

Debbie updated the Committee on the Logo contest. The winner of the contest was Julian Rozanes, a Mamaroneck High School student who received the prize of \$250 from an anonymous donation.

Ellen noted that we launched our Instagram page in May, 2021 and we now have 136 followers. A general discussion followed relating to increasing followers and providing content.

Christie discussed a new initiative to endorse businesses that are compliant with the Village's ban on single-use straws, Styrofoam packaging and plastic bags. Christi noted that education is the first step and suggested that Robert Ingenito could produce a flyer to give out to local businesses reminding them of these bans.

Food Scrap Recycling Program

Ellen noted that ASAP, the privately run program that collects food scraps from residents for a fee, will cease operations at the end of the year. They currently serve over 100 households. Ellen noted that this would be a logical time for the Village Sanitation Department to begin curbside pickup for residents that sign up for it.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Renée Crabtree