

**VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  
MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2021 MEETING**

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

Also Present: Kelly Wenstrup (Trustee), Lisa Darrigo (Program Coordinator, New York League of Conservation Voters Education Fund), June Ottinger (Harbor Island Conservancy), Mackenzie Minguillo (high school student)

The meeting was held via Zoom and called to order at 7:15 pm.

**Presentation**

Lisa Darrigo made a presentation to the Committee on ways communities can bring themselves into alignment with the goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. Ellen Silver thanked Lisa for the presentation and agreed to reach out for assistance with some of the items currently being undertaken by the Village in this area, as discussed further under the Clean Energy Communities/Climate Smart Communities Sub-Committee update below.

**General Discussion**

The minutes of the Committee's May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting were approved.

Ellen noted she hosted a composting webinar in conjunction with the Mamaroneck Library which was well received. Renee Crabtree noted that the Pollinator Garden Tour held on June 13<sup>th</sup> was well attended with very positive feedback from both garden hosts and attendees. This was the inaugural event for the community and will be held annually going forward.

**Repair Café**

Ellen noted that the Town of Mamaroneck Sustainability Collaborative is planning to host a Repair Café in October and would like to enlist the involvement of the CFTE. They would like our help with finding volunteers to do repairs and planning and promoting the event.

**The Center for Continuing Education**

The Center for Continuing Education is launching a Sustainability Series of programs in the fall. The first session will held on October 4<sup>th</sup> and is being led by Nick Zuba, a member of the Sustainability Collab, on the topic of clean energy.

**Clean Up Event**

The Committee has decided to move forward with holding a fall clean up. Mandy Lorlenza Sticos has agreed to take the lead on organizing this event.

**Harbor Island West Basin Landscaping Project**

June Ottinger noted that the County has provided the funding for this project. The Harbor Island Conservancy is currently working a landscaping company on plans for the gardens surrounding the new pump house. June noted that she is open to suggestions from the

Committee on incorporating native plants in the gardens. June noted that new landscaping of the County Pier is also being undertaken but is a separate project.

### **Clean Energy Communities/Climate Smart Communities Sub-Committee**

David Freeman and Ellen will present at the June 28<sup>th</sup> Board of Trustees' meeting to request a task force be established whose goal will be to obtain Climate Smart Community and Clean Energy Community certifications. The task force will largely be made up of this sub-committee plus selected Village staff and elected officials. In addition, community members with the relevant background, such as the Tree Committee and the Flood Committee, may be appointed to the task force.

Ellen noted that the threshold for both the Grid Rewards and Community Solar programs had been met and the Village is now eligible for a \$5,000 grant. A clean energy project needs to be identified to receive the grant. The Committee discussed several possibilities.

### **Food Waste Recycling Program**

This month marked the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the food scraps recycling program. Ellen noted that we have collected over 125 tons of compost since the program began running in July, 2018.

### **Healthy Yards**

David Styler agreed to reach out to Jerry Barberio to find out how many warnings have been issued under the ban on leaf blowers.

### **CFTE Logo Contest**

Debbie Sullivan noted that the sub-committee had selected 4 logos to send to the Committee to vote on. Tim Whitney noted he will send around a Google form to collect the votes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Renée Crabtree