

**VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 19, 2021 MEETING**

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

Also Present: Tom Murphy (Mayor, Village of Mamaroneck), Lindsay Audin (Chair of the Croton-on-Hudson Sustainability Committee), Margo Thompson (Newport Ventures)

Member absent: Tim Whitney

The meeting was held via Zoom and called to order at 7:10 pm.

Guest Speaker – Margo Thompson – NY Stretch Energy Code 2020

Ellen introduced Margo Thompson of Newport Ventures who made a presentation to the Committee outlining the various features of the NY Stretch Energy Code 2020. Following the presentation, Ellen thanked Margo for her time and noted that the Committee will reach out to Matt Evans of Newport Ventures with any questions and for assistance going forward. Margo then left the meeting.

General Discussion

The minutes of the Committee's September 22nd, 2021 meeting were approved.

Ellen noted that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Mamaroneck passed the Tree Law at its October 12th, 2021 meeting.

Ellen also noted that the Repair Café, held on October 16th, 2021 was well attended and will likely be repeated in future.

Ellen updated the Committee on the status of the Logo contest. Debbie agreed to send current samples to the Committee members.

Ellen mentioned the upcoming NYSACC Virtual Conference on the Environment, which is a free event starting October 21 through October 24, 2021.

Guest Speaker – Lindsay Audin – Solar Canopies

Ellen introduced Lindsay Audin to speak to the Committee about solar canopies. Lindsay made a presentation to the Committee outlining some of the solar canopy projects currently being undertaken in local municipalities. These solar canopies are being installed over parking lots, both private and public.

Lindsay explained that Bill A.6838 needs to be passed to allow solar canopies to be installed over parking lots in parks (municipal, county or state) in the State of New York. This bill provides an exemption from the requirements for the alienation of parkland for renewable energy generating projects with a generating capacity not exceeding two megawatts and which are located above real property currently used for vehicle parking. The bill is currently being held up in the NY State Assembly and Lindsay asked for the Committee's assistance by contacting Steve Otis, our district NYS Assemblyman, to let him know that the Committee supports the passing of this bill.

A resolution was unanimously passed by the Committee stating that it supports the passing of this bill. Tom Murphy agreed to speak with Steve Otis to inform him that the Committee is in support of this bill and would like to see it move forward.

Ellen thanked Lindsay for his time. Lindsay then left the meeting.

Fall Clean Up Event

Ellen noted this event will be held on November 6th from 9:30 am to 12:00. Robert Ingenito has posted the sign-up genius on the Village's website. A Shred Day will also be held at Harbor Island Park at the same time. The event will be followed by a free Citizen Pruners Workshop hosted by the Village Tree Committee. Lindsay Reitzes, a Village of Mamaroneck resident, was then permitted to address the Committee. Lindsay noted that the PTSA from the Rye Neck school district will be promoting this event to increase turnout. Ellen thanked Lindsay for these efforts.

Clean Energy Communities/Climate Smart Communities update

Ellen noted that the Village has received its first \$5,000 grant which will be used to buy LED lightbulbs which will be made available to Village residents. The second \$5,000 grant will be used to purchase electric lawn maintenance equipment for use by the Village's Parks & Recreation department.

Food Scrap Recycling Program

Ellen noted that this program has been reinstated, including Saturday hours, following the suspension due to storm damage caused by Hurricane Ida.

Community Gardens

David Styler noted that he will be leaving the Committee after the next meeting having served for the maximum allowable term. He noted that someone will need to take over responsibility for managing the Community Gardens and asked Committee members that are interested to contact him.

Healthy Yards

Mandy discussed her ideas for some new initiatives to increase native plantings in the Village. A new subcommittee will be formed to move these initiatives forward.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Renée Crabtree