

**VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2020 MEETING**

Members Present: Ellen Silver (Chair), David Styler, Renée Crabtree, David Finch, Dan Kushnick, Christi Young, Liam Robb O'Hagan

Members Absent: David Freeman, Martin Hain, Maria Karsou, Timothy Whitney

Also Present: Paul Kutzy (WJWW), Frank Arcara (WJWW), Dan Natchez (Trustee), Jerry Barberio (Village Manager)

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

**Presentation by Westchester Joint Water Works ("WJWW")**

The WJWW was invited to present to the Committee regarding the safety of our drinking water and the status of the new filtration plant. Paul Kutzy, Manager for WJWW, walked the Committee through the presentation which discussed the public notification of the violations issued by the Westchester County Department of Health for HAA5 MCL exceedances at one of the WJWW's testing sites in April, May & August of 2019. The WJWW's response to this and other issues consists of a corrective action plan and the construction of a filtration plant on Westchester County property adjacent to the Westchester County Airport. Construction is expected to begin January 2022 and completed by September 2024. In addition, the WJWW plans to construct an ultraviolet treatment facility at the Rye Lake reservoir which has an expected completion date of Spring 2021. In general, the Committee felt reassured by the steps taken by the WJWW to date and plans for the future to ensure the continued safety of our drinking water. Ellen thanked the WJWW representatives for their time and presentation to the Committee.

The WJWW representatives then left the meeting.

**General Discussion:**

The minutes of the Committee's January 2020 meeting were approved.

Ellen noted that the Committee has joined the Environmental Leaders Learning Alliance ("ELLA") which provides members with information and resources on local environmental issues. Membership is open to individuals from cities, towns and villages in the lower Hudson Valley who serve on any town-appointed environmental committee.

Ellen noted the upcoming Repair Café on March 14<sup>th</sup> being held at the Mamaroneck Senior Center. She also noted that they are in need of anyone with repair skills and asked the Committee members to please spread the word.

Ellen discussed setting the date for the Village's Annual Clean and Green Event and noted that this year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Dates being considered are April 25<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup>. Our event is better held during low tide as a lot of the clean-

up areas are along the waterfront. Renée agreed to get back to Ellen with the relevant tide times. (Update: Tides are better on May 9<sup>th</sup>, based on local tide tables.)

### **Proposed Tree By-Law**

There was a brief discussion around the proposed tree regulations as submitted by the Tree Committee. The Committee was asked to familiarize themselves with the new proposal to allow for a more in-depth discussion at our next meeting. Jerry noted that the Tree Committee will be posting more information on the Village's website including a summary of comments received from residents relating to the new proposal.

### **Community Gardens**

David Styler has offered to help supervise the Community Gardens located off Fenimore Avenue near the I95 overpass. Jerry agreed to update the Committee on the status of these lots.

### **Wildflower Plantings**

David Finch asked Jerry for an update on the status of planting wildflowers along the banks on Halstead Avenue near the Mamaroneck train station. This land is owned by the MTA and, as such, we are restricted in what we can plant on this land. Jerry is planning to first treat the weeds with a vinegar solution in the spring, then plant the wild flowers.

### **Leaf Blower Legislation:**

As requested at our last meeting, Jerry noted that 38 violations have been issued by the Village Building Department and 44 violations have been issued by the Village Police Department to date.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Renée Crabtree