

Meeting Minutes

Village of Mamaroneck Committee for the Environment (CFTE)

Held In Village Courthouse

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Present: Ellen Silver (Chair), Katherine Desmond, Marc Karell, Maria Karsou, Greg Cutler (Village Planner), Jeff DeToro, David Freeman, Martin Hain, David Styler, Victor Tafur (Trustee), Leon Potok (Trustee and Liaison to Village Board), Neil Desai, VOM consultant

Not Present: Jennifer Keefe

Minutes from February meeting were approved.

Comprehensive Plan Update

Neil Desai, of NV5, a consulting firm hired by the Village to update the Comprehensive Plan presented to the committee. He is working on updating the Comprehensive Plan from 2012 and wanted to get input from CFTE on sustainability goals. He is planning to include a sustainability section in the report. Neil distributed an information packet (www.planvom.org). We discussed some areas of interest including the food waste recycling initiative and bike lanes. It was widely agreed that there is no need to “reinvent the wheel” and that it would be beneficial for Neil to look at best practices of other comparable municipalities.

Marc Karell discussed his project of updating the carbon footprint of the Village for 2017. That information will be useful to Neil in his work. Also, discussed was bringing Recyclopedia to the Village (this is a Town of Mamaroneck web page that helps residents figure out how to recycle any item).

Clean and Green

A large portion of the meeting served as a planning session for the upcoming annual Clean and Green event. The event will be held on Saturday, April 21 from 9:30 am – noon. April 28th is the rain date. Martin prepared a flyer which was approved by the committee and will be used to post in store windows and for billboards by the Mamaroneck Post Office, the I-95 Fenimore exit ramp and the entrance to Harbor Island Park. The signs will be put up by the Village to promote the event. Ellen will put a notice in the weekly Hommocks Middle school e-newsletter and will post the event on

Nextdoor. She will also inform the environmental club at Mamaroneck High School. David will contact Rye Neck High School. Maria will contact Kristen Carpenter who leads a girl scout troop.

There will be six clean-up zones (Greg has the map used in the past) led by Marc, Ellen, Jeff, Martin, Victor and Greg. Maria will remain at the Harbor and man the information table. We will have a sign up sheet at the event for residents who are interested in getting the food recycling kits once they are available.

Maria offered to get solicit Stop and Shop and Trader Joes for some refreshments. Martin suggested that the committee update the sign in the Regatta.

We need to schedule a meeting with Barry from the Village to finalize details for the event. Leon will help with setting up a meeting.

Community Gardens

Colin gave an update on the Community Gardens located off the I-95 exit ramp at Fenimore Road. There are 12 plots and at this point only one is remaining available. Three plots were recently given to the CRC (formerly Hispanic Resource Center). Leon discussed arranging backyard garden education and the committee was receptive to that idea. The idea of possible expansion of community gardens at Florence Park was also discussed. Katherine mentioned the Cornell cooperative extension as a great resource for backyard gardeners.

Water Quality Advisory Committee

Leon informed the committee that there is a new draft circulating. There will be five representatives from Village Committees and two representatives appointed by the Village Board. These will have two-year terms. CFTE will need to appoint a member. Meetings will be quarterly.

Public Comments

No public comments were submitted.