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MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK, NY COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (CFTE) MEETING, JUNE 20, 2017, AT 7:30 P.M. AT COURTROOM, 169 MT. PLEASANT AVE., MAMARONECK, NY 10543

PRESENT: David Styler (Co-Chair), Phil Horner, Marc Karell, Kristen Carpenter, Jeff DeToro, Katherine Desmond, Maria Karsou, Colin Goldberg, Ellen Silver, Greg Cutler (Assistant Village Planner)

Minutes of May 16, 2017 meeting approved.

MARKETING & OUTREACH SUB-COMMITTEE: High priority to improve website in order to educate the community about what they can do for the local environment and show what we do. In order to achieve this, we need to further discussions between Sub-committee leader Martin Hain and Deputy Village Manager Dan Sarnoff. Members of CFTE need to review current website and develop a “wish list” of what they would like to see be included or changed. It was recommended to review Scarsdale’s website as a potential model.

The possibility of a newsletter was discussed as websites are more passive (people have to look it up), while a newsletter goes into people’s inboxes. A website is effective for disseminating basic educational material and background. A newsletter can proliferate news and promote upcoming activities effectively. A newsletter ideally would cross-market environmental events of other, nearby municipalities. Perhaps there should be a joint newsletter.

It was suggested that a working session of the CFTE be held, led by Martin, with those of Village Administration involved in the website, such as Dan, focused on outreach issues only. Perhaps in place of a July or August monthly CFTE meeting.

WATER QUALITY SUB-COMMITTEE. An interactive map of water data was prepared by Arcadis, and released on June 29. It contains a summary of data collected by Arcadis over many years, with scatterplots of testing, trend lines, etc. The goal of the effort is to assess success in reducing contaminant concentration and to plan for future water sampling in the Village or beyond.

There was a discussion about the area around the salt shed. There is a smelly storm drain nearby, bridge abutments, and tree limbs and branches tangled in the area. These issues need to be addressed. Valley Lane Bridge needs to have the center abutment removed to alleviate flooding of the Mamaroneck River.

Has this been discussed in the MS4 Report?

PARKS & GARDENS SUB-COMMITTEE. Jeff DeToro will join David Styler in researching the feasibility of having wildflower plantings at the Taylors Lane site. Perhaps they can find an experienced consultant to assess.

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It was reported that the number of open plots among the 12 in the Community Garden off of Fenimore Road is now down to 3. The word has gotten out. There was thinking about opening a second community garden at Florence Park.

QUALITY OF LIFE AND SUSTAINABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE. The Village Administration is looking to become a certified NY State Climate Smart Community. The Town of Mamaroneck has already achieved this, and the Village is studying the feasibility of the requirements.

The new Village Manager (Rob Yamuder) preliminarily expressed interest in investing in a high-quality energy saving project for the Village to achieve this year. Marc Karell has made a couple of suggestions and wishes to set up a meeting between the two (and including Trustee Victor Tafur and anyone else interested) to discuss the matter in more specifics. A date and time for such a meeting has not been agreed to yet.

RECYCLING SUB-COMMITTEE. A visit to the current DPW Recycling Center has not been arranged yet to review operations and perhaps suggest improvements.

No bin has been installed for textiles at the DPW Recycling Center. Different options are being discussed, such as for-profit enterprises, which concerned some members. Such enterprises may throw out in the garbage items that are not considered to be useful or profitable, taking away the idea of recycling textiles. It was noted that the Larchmont Farmer's Market has a "real" textile recycling system. Scarsdale apparently has a useful system, as well.

The meeting was adjourned about 10:15pm.