

Conservation Commission Regular Meeting
Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Tuesday, April 10, 2018, 8:00 pm
conservationcommission@hastingsgov.org

Present: Jean, Haven, Dan, Ron, Andy

Visitors: Peter Wolf, Leslie Barbagallo

1. **Indian Point – movie screening and activism (Peter Wolf)** – NYCD-Indivisible. Indian Point closing 2020-21. 1) This is a very critical and dangerous period because the plant will degrade and Entergy will spend as little money as possible. Big concern about accidents. For example - Reactor head is cracked. Normally NRC requires changing the head, now only requiring welding as a quick fix. Recently there was 2.3 earthquake 8 miles from Indian Point. NRC says IP 3 is the most vulnerable reactor to an earthquake in the country. Continuing terrorism issues, including cyberattacks. They are now losing \$\$.
- Want to educate people to fact that plant is more dangerous now and need more vigilance than everyone else. 2) Nuclear Waste. There is no place for waste to go so will stay; 3) Decommissioning Process. Group saw George Latimer to educate him of lack of vigilance and also to make sure first responders are properly trained. The program – 1) Karl Rabago to address issue of how we will have enough power if IP shuts down. Energy picture in NYS without Nukes. 2) Richard Webster – legal director of Riverkeeper - Jurisdictional issues and nuclear waste. 3) Manna Jo Greene, Director of Clearwater will talk about decommissioning and citizen action. Decommissioning only deals with the reactors not waste.

Action Steps – 1) Spectra pipeline was just expanded. NYS commissioned a risk assessment which they have not released. Even under FOIL. So first step is to apply pressure to get this released. 2) Get Citizens Oversight Board as State Legislation. Provisions for it in the NRC regs. So will have postcards for State Senate and Assembly; 3) postcard campaign to NRC. EDUCATE AND INFORM

They want to take the show on the road. Hoping to get Elliot Engel to come to our program. (White Plains, NYC).

They want us to spread the word about the conference and getting people to come.

Activate the spreadsheet.

Dan volunteers to have a theoretical conversation about nuclear vs. climate change. 3rd generation nuclear.

2. **Food Scraps** – Really successful. 15 kits were sold. Bin was 5/7 full. So we will need more bins because next market we will have 15 more people dumping their food wastes. We will have 4 bins at our disposal. If the demand outpaces what we can collect at the farmers market then maybe the DPW will allow dumping at the dump. And then maybe curbside like Scarsdale. Haven will re-share the sign-up sheet. Now we have a standing spot at the Market we can promote any of our initiatives. Food Waste from our market goes to Greenburgh which trucks it to Ulster which composts it. Greenburgh Nature

Center is in the process of getting officials/ngos together to explore a commercial based composting site in Westchester. This is an intermediate step to suss out interest and eventually get something more local. Ron is going to continue to look into anaerobic digestion.

3. **Hillside Woods** – BOT is waiting for the survey to be finished. Survey will also include where the enclosure will cost. How to do it, when. Timetable on the survey is plan done by the fall. The report will tell us how we will stage the recovery of the woods with a specific plan for the fence. Dan says the BOT can go out for a bond at will. But there may be competition for bond money b/c we have a limit of 10% bonding capacity. We are at 8% now. How do we keep public support. The firm (Land Beyond the Sea) is very big into working with community groups. We've had to go back and forth with DEC with them. Dan feels like they really see the forest. Dan will expect them to get going within the next few weeks. Dan says that the proposed dog park is not technically in Hillside Park – End of Judson. Whether dog park or not, have to change behavior in Hillside Woods.
4. **Leaf Blower Law** – Coco not here.
5. **Ban on Plastic Straws** - tabled
6. **Repair Café**
7. **Updates**
 - a. Energy Working Group working on 3 things. 1) Wholesale municipal buying agreement for electric vehicles and landscape equipment. Group price organized by Sustainable Westchester. Like solarize for ev's and lawn care. Village signed on. 2) Fleet analysis and landscape equipment analysis. Also including school on this. We have a full inventory of all the vehicles and some of the landscape. 3) Applying for a rebate for EV charging stations. Have a few contractors they are working with. Dobbs charging station is 3-4 times using gasoline. Won't be priced like Dobbs. 4) CEC grant – started collecting historical electricity and natural gas. Still waiting on NYSERDA.
 - b. Waste Subgroup -
 - c. Textile Recycling
 - d. **Carbon Tax Resolution** – had a great session at Pace. Want to do it in NYC.

Still waiting for the BOT to take an action.
 - e. **Tree Grant and outreach efforts** – see above.
 - f. **CEC Grant** – see above

- g. **Route 9 Corridor** – expecting plan view of all 5 villages in about a week or so. Hoping for strong Hastings showing of interest. No date for the public meeting yet.

8. Announcements and New Business

- a. **Riverkeeper Sweep** – Saturday May 5th. There's a come clean the river event. Haven runs this event. Haven arranges to clean this private cove (north-south cove where garbage accumulates).
- b. **April 21st and 22nd** is the Village Cleanup event.