



Conservation Commission Regular Meeting
Municipal Building, 7 Maple Ave. 2nd Floor Conference Room
Tuesday, November 12 ,2019, 8pm
conservationcommission@hastingsgov.org

- 1. Presentation by Sustainable Westchester on Recycle Right**
- 2. Presentation on Carpooling to the Train**
- 3. Anti-Idling Measures**
- 4. Silly String at public events**
- 5. Hillside Woods Recap of 11/7 event ([Click here for video of the Meeting](#))**
- 6. CC Outreach Strategy**
- 7. Updates**
 - a. Climate Smart Communities Update**
 - b. 0-Waste Subcommittee Update**
 - c. Heatsmart – House Tour 11/17 and Update**
 - d. Repair Café – 11/16 update**
 - e. Food Scraps**
 - f. Pollinator Pathways**
 - g. Intervillage Meeting**
 - h. Route 9**
- 8. Announcements**

Attendees:

Sharon Kirowitz
Haven Colgate
Jean Hamerman
Spencer Weart
Sashi Nivarthi
Kerry-Jane King
Leslie Barbagallo
Neha Dhanik
Mary Lambert

Tim

Patrick McKenzie

Anna Gomez-Tayoor

Fairly large agenda

Neha - Sustainable Westchester (SW) - Talking about Recycle Right. Sustainable Westchester merged from Northern and Southern Westchester Energy Groups. They have municipalities as their members. 44 of the 46 municipalities are part of the SW. For a nominal membership fee, SW offers a consultative program development guidance on a variety of green programs. CCA, Solarize, charging stations, HeatSmart are some of the programs developed by SW. They have built an app for Waste Reduction. Some municipalities are thinking of discontinuing the printed brochures for recycling. "The Recollect Calendar" has been added to the Village website. Calendar can be added to the Village Facebook page, since the Village FB page has more than 2,000 likes. Demo of the Recollect calendar. Pop-outs on individual categories can be used for providing further detailed information about the type of DPW service being provided that day. Feedback is incorporated almost immediately in the calendar. Hastings DPW has provided all the information in the brochure. CSCs provide more feedback. The calendar should be publicized more to the residents of the Village, along with the Westchester Recycle app. Highlight ways to reduce junk mail along with Reduce Waste campaign. Locations of clothing bins to be provided to SW. Raf from the Village has access to the dashboard. Publicize the app at the Repair Cafe. Conservation Commission to ask Raf to rename the Recollect Calendar to "Recycle Right And Pickup Schedules". Haven to coordinate with Raf to make necessary changes to the DPW site.

Ideas for car-pooling. Mike not present. Recycling/composting kits being sold at the PTSA meeting. The BoT has adopted the anti-idling law. Currently, it's the same as the Westchester law. CC to make sure that the signage is put up about the law, and also get proof of enforcement.

Silly String - BoT is in the process of considering banning Silly String because of plastic and ozone-depleting propellant. Many municipalities already have laws on the books

banning SS. Ask Barb to consider asking the merchants selling them to stop the sales. Haven to circle back with the parents to consider getting this law on the Village books.

Leaf-blowers - Volunteer needed to educate homeowners on the issues caused by using leaf blowers. Combine with Pollinator Pathways and native plants, possibly at the Repair Cafe too. Neha planning to set up a site to demonstrate the effectiveness of not using leaf blowers, landscaping without chemicals etc. Is SW doing anything to have the county change their laws on the leaf blowers, possibly by encouraging electric leaf blowers? Pesticides - educate homeowners on the harms of using chemicals in land care. DPW should include additional information about Pollinator Pathway. Irvington/Bedford has some nice documentation on Pollinator Pathways.

Hillside Woods Event - Nov 7th. There was a great turnout. About 50 people signed in and attended the program. Haven did a great job presenting. Next steps - work on invasive plants on 5th and 6th of December with the Parks and Recreation department, in conjunction with the Vine Squad. Sharon talked about the "Friends of the Woods" program and people were interested in bringing it back. Tim is concerned with the definition of what "restoring the woods" means. Deer and wildlife are dependent on acorns for food in winter. Reducing the source of acorns in Hillside Woods will then shift the wildlife to residential areas. What are the plans for the fence? After the deer have been restricted and the original trees have grown back, what is the plan with the fence? Reduce litter, restore native trees first before beginning more ambitious plans to restore Hillside Woods. Haven and Tim to prioritize things which can be done with great impact in Hillside Woods. Tarro is working on behalf of the county with the Village. Haven to coordinate with Tim and Tarro for a walk in the Woods, and come up with an actionable plan.

Outreach strategy - List of contacts. Sashi to work on this list. Jean recommended having volunteers to own the communication aspects of each CC undertaking.

CSC - on track to receive Bronze

HeatSmart - Home tour organized (Jean Hamerman's house is the display house). More publicity will be provided at the Repair Cafe. The home tour is November 17th.

Everyone on the Solarize list is on the HeatSmart list. The Solarize list can be used to mail out information on the home tours.

Food Scraps - Bin now at the library. Haven found cross-contamination in the compost bins. Barb needs to talk to local merchants about not using plastic bags. Plastic stickers on food items.

Inter-Village meeting - Jan 12th, 2:00 PM. All towns of Greenburgh are now part of the IVC.

Pollinator Pathways - Haven and Diane met someone at the Rockefeller park. Will work with homeowners along the Aqueduct trail and promote Pollinator Pathways.

Route 9 - In response to fatality on Route 9 in DF, there might be some funding made available towards pedestrian safety.