

Conservation Commission Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 8 2022

Present: Haven Colgate, Chair; John Castiglione; Eyal Dror; Matt Hobby; Mary Lambert, Trustee Liaison; Amy Listerman; Aarthi Muthukrishnan. **Also present:** David Skolnik. **Notes by:** Haven Colgate

Codes:

John: Compare to other towns that have enforcement; find comps that compare to Hastings.
Tree code - invite tree board to a meeting?

What is the order of operations? Comp review of where there are deficiencies in codes (what it's missing); how to enforce. Get a list of complaints from town clerk/police.

Public education.

Needed: an online complaint portal, properly designed, that can double as an educational tool.
See Southhold, NY's website as an example.

John will build out the doc he started; everyone invited to suggest/add/edit etc. Let's have it in a good place by next meeting. Haven will reshare doc. Haven will talk to Anthony about citations to date.

Review code library from NYSACC - <https://nysacc.org/index.php/ordinance-library/>

- **Yards & leaves outreach update**

- Mary is still reaching out to the folks in Bedford
- Aarthi, has gotten a bunch of signs out, by sending a targeted email and giving some out at the PTSA used book fair. HPP can add to its website as well - and plug in our next newsletter. - oops (meant to do that in nov. 1 news)
- We will craft a listening tour of landscapers in January.
- Amy & Aarthi will talk to Mary Beth about truck leaf suckers, and:
 - List of permitted landscapers
 - How is the permitting process working? How do landscapers know that they're supposed to register?

- **Ecosystem restorations projects update**

- Matt will liaise with Mary Beth to help direct Ryan & Ryan's work at the site.
- Amy didn't find specific Amish fencing companies in Pennsylvania per Melissa Reavis' suggestion, for HW; Haven will follow up with Melissa.
 - Town is rejecting the one HW bid they got and will do fencing and forestry separately
 - Has to go back to BOT & follow muni laws
 - Want to do a spring install vs winter install

- **Zero Waste Advisory Taskforce update**

- **Signage Needed**
- **Removal of the current textile recycling bins** & replacement of those with:

- [Greentree](#) sustainable textile recycling - lawyer reviewing contract
 - Repair cafe not as big as last year; promotion material was taken down? Need to investigate
 - TILI going great - Gal talked to Andrus CEO and they are happy with it; major reno next year but will find an alternate spot
 - Hudson compost: new employee for pickups; still haven't gotten a cost-effective plan for commercial composting
 - **Online information on village website:** update
- **Climate Smart Communities Task Force update**
 - We have a Climate Action Plan draft; the committee meets 11/16 - reviewing CAP actions and adding KPIs
 - Other actions: Compost system - PE8 incentives for businesses diverting waste from landfills - cd research and possibly get grants for implementing in Hastings
 - Followup call with Rhinebeck: Mary & Aarthi
 - Green vendor fair in the spring?
 - Gov't solid waste audit - Haven will ck with Elisa
 - Plan for green infrastructure - e.g. rain gardens, culverts; permeable pavements, etc.
- **Parks & Rec Commission update**
 - Zinsser Community Gardens
 - Dog park project moving fwd - hired a consultant
 - Rowley's Bridge trail - needs work...
 - Skate Park
 - Mary will reach out to the school to find out details?
 - An Eagle Scout candidate is interested in building and donating benches to a public park, potentially around Sugar Pond - presented to Trustees; can't be installed until Sugar Pond work is complete.

Aarthi will follow up with Caitlyn on more detailed data from DEF on recycling programs.

- **Communication Among Committees**
 - HHS liaison? Haven will reach out to HHS E club
- **Money:** Mini kiosk at hillside entrance, possibly. Haven will follow up with Cat.