Conservation Commission Minutes– January 13, 2022

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Attendees

Present: Haven Colgate, Chair; Matt Hobby; Margie Lavender; Amy Listerman; Christopher Persheff; Sean Taggart; Mary Lambert, Trustee Liaison.

Also present: Elisa Zazzera. Notes taken by Matt Hobby.

8:00-8:05pm  Introduction (Haven Colgate)
  ● Approved minutes from December 14

8:05-8:20pm  BOT Update Part I (Mary Lambert)
  ● Electric Vehicle update
    o See Village’s EV website:
      https://www.hastingsgov.org/conservation-commission/pages/electric-plug-hybrid-electric-vehicles
    o NYSERDA website tracks the number of EV’s registered in the Village
    o Follow-up: Think about possible HOH Electric Vehicle Owners’ meet-up
    o Opportunities and hurdles for additional Village charging stations

8:20-8:25 pm  High School Liaison update (Sophia Ferris)
  ● Clothing sale
  ● Meatless Mondays
  ● Recycling bins - got new tops from Business mgr to eliminate confusion
  ● Building bench for Sawmill River with Steve Pucillo

8:25-8:30pm  Zero Waste (Elisa Zazzera)
  ● Take It Or Leave It Shed at Andrus continues to progress toward March 2022 opening
  ● Take-Out container project still underway
  ● Westchester Alliance for Sustainable Solutions: New group focused on alternatives to Peekskill solid waste incineration plant

8:30-8:35pm  BOT Update Part II (Mary Lambert)
  ● Grant for Warburton sidewalks
  ● One Warburton development: Planning Board will lead for Village
  ● Vest Pocket Park: Potential grant
- Savatree Consulting Group’s Community Forest Management Plan: To be presented at next Board of Trustees meeting
- MacEachron Park hydrology and erosion survey
- Chemka Pool drainage project- May involve Sugar Pond area also
- Energy Smart campaign

8:35-8:50pm  **Ecosystem and land** (Haven Colgate and Amy Listerman)
- Vine Squad update
  - Burke Estate
  - Discussions with Ardsley, Bedford, Hudson River Museum
- Hillside Woods Perimeter Fencing - Construction is beginning
- Hillside Woods tree inventory: lots of work to do
- Parks & Rec capital projects- Avoiding missing environmental opportunities such as plantings & pollinator pathway elements, water management elements & natural swales
- Hillside Woods ATV under consideration
- Urban Forester position possible in 2023
- Potential for Parks & Rec to gain expertise with electric leaf blowers
- Seeking third member of Tree Preservation Board
  - **Follow-up:** Village-Wide email seeking qualified arborists
  - Village Tree Code update

8:50-9:05pm  **Pollinator Pathways**
- Adopt-a-Spot Girl Scout troop project: help with Wagner Plaza
- Spring campaign on pesticide awareness and native plant awareness
  - Simplifying of messaging
    - Positive alternatives to pesticides
    - List of top 5 pollinator plants
    - New Village resident welcome packages
    - Visits to interested homeowners’ properties
  - Native plant sale at Farmers’ Market.

9:05-9:10pm  **Other Events** (Haven Colgate)
- Wednesday February 16th online NYSAC meeting: open format; details to be announced

9:10-9:30pm  **Outreach to Community / Community Engagement** (Haven Colgate)
- Including more vulnerable / less vocal constituencies in the Village
- Information sources about Village sanitary sewer and stormwater systems
- Transportation, Adaptation and Energy sections of Climate working group
9:30pm     Meeting ended

Next meeting: February 8, 2022