

VILLAGE OF HAMBURG ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

Wednesday, March 11, 2015; 7:00 PM

Hamburg Village Hall, 100 Main St., Hamburg, NY 14075

PRESENT: **Commission Members:** Chair - Adrienne Punturiero; Tom Collins, Edwin Drabek, Tim McDonald, Dan Riker, Andy Schrauth, Stuart Wheaton, Danielle Zientek
Village Board Liaison: Mark Colmeraurer

Welcome New Member: Danielle Zientek

Overlook/Bird Sanctuary Projects

- Foot bridge from Overlook to Bird Sanctuary:
 - Stuart will contact Charlie Sickler again (Erie County DPW) regarding approximate cost and his availability for a group field trip to view one or more of the bridges
 - Andy will contact UB regarding student design/build project
 - Danielle will look into contractors
 - Stu will contact ECC
 - Mark will speak to Paul Becker of the Trail Task Force for possible connection
 - Adrienne brought in minutes from June, 2009 meeting with notes from previous member regarding foot bridge:
 - Spoke to professor/structural engineer at ECC, who said survey, flood plain and budget needed
 - Mark will do research regarding cost, etc.; contact Corps of Engineers and DEC about anchoring, and put together a package
- Bird Sanctuary:
 - Clean-up/trail mulching/plantings, etc.
 - Discussed firming up date so other groups can be contacted early enough to help (not 5/2/15, which is Town/Village Clean-Up)
 - Andy suggested low shrubs or ferns to line the entry path – will send a list of choices (deer/drought resistant)
 - Andy had previously suggested large, flat rocks in lieu of the benches that had been destroyed
 - Tim had previously suggested pea gravel for entry path and area around bike rack and kiosk
 - Adrienne suggested the group look for 3-5 large rocks and pea gravel to be donated or sold at cost
 - Mark will check with stone/pavement suppliers; but these items could potentially be covered by our tree budget
 - DPW will put into place after we acquire
 - Tim contacted Gerry Rising of Buffalo News about doing article and/or finding a group to manage the Sanctuary:
 - Mr. Rising agreed to do an article, and requested:
 - A bio of Anna Mae Bacon and/or commendations from former students;
 - A list of birds recorded there;
 - A time frame for the column so it can be centered around an activity or fund drive
 - Tim will:
 - Obtain article previously written on Mrs. Bacon;

- Find out who the Eagle Scout was who previously did bird list for kiosk
- Respond to Mr. Rising's email
 - Danielle will contact DEC "bird lady"
- Adrienne contacted Lizz Schumer, Editor of The Sun, also about doing an article; awaiting response
- Tom will contact Dan Meyer also about doing an article
- Bat houses – Stu said Boy Scout Troop 509 is looking to take on this project

Tree Planting

- Trees for spring planting should be ordered soon. Andy and Tom have kept track of requests and replacements needed (about 20 total); will take care of ordering, marking planting spots; notifying DPW
- Tom emailed the Erie County Tree & Shrub Seedling Program Order Form to the group prior to our meeting:
 - It was decided that the seedlings are too small - larger trees are preferable
 - Andy will order for his own use and "foster" them for future village planting

Village Recycling

- Business Recycling:
 - Goal of increased recycling rate by businesses; Adrienne previously discussed survey ideas (present rate of recycling; how to increase) with VBAC President - utilizing Survey Monkey was suggested, but group is not familiar with using it. It was agreed it would be easier than printing out surveys and hand delivering, so Adrienne will look into it further
 - Mark will check with DPW regarding collection of recyclables at Village Square, etc., since they have never collected there, and we cannot go forward if that is not determined
- Festivals:
 - Adrienne emailed member of Burgerfest committee regarding encouragement of recycling; awaiting response

Tree Management Plan

Adrienne questioned whether there would be an issue sharing the Plan with Erie County Environmental Management Council (ECEMC); Mark confirmed no problem sharing - it is a public document

Member Bios for Village Website

Ed brought in his; Adrienne will scan and email to group – all encouraged to complete theirs soon

Miscellaneous

Adrienne shared the *Healthy Niagara Watershed Management Plan Phase 1 Report* from ECEMC

Next regularly scheduled meeting - Wednesday, April 8, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adrienne Punturiero