

Village of Hamburg
Environmental Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2018

I. Call to order

Adrienne Punturiero called to order the regular meeting of the Environmental Conservation Commission at 7:00 pm on Wednesday August 8, 2018 at Hamburg Village hall.

II. Roll call

Present: Tom Collins, Mike Reilly, Andy Schrauth , Mark DiPasquale (Village board Liaison) Absent: Stu Wheaton, Mark Mol

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from April and June meetings approved.

IV. Bird Sanctuary

- The Sun printed an article & photo regarding the 5/12/18 cleanup/trail marking we did at the bird sanctuary with the scouts and DPW.
- Reported that five sitting rocks have been donated for the bird sanctuary. Adrienne will send out thank you cards from our commission to Buffalo Crushed Stone, Inc and two other community volunteers who helped facilitate the donation. The DPW placed the rocks into designated spots (marked previously by Andy and Adrienne). These rocks were Andy's suggestion as a way to fend off vandalism after previously donated benches were twice destroyed.
- Fall clean-up/trail marking campaign -members to be solicited for date (decision by August 12). Soliciting help of various community organizations discussed: Imagine Hamburg; scouts; church organizations; Chamber of Commerce; rotaries,. (etc.). Need to add to community calendar in The Sun when the date is decided. DPW will provide millings for pathways – need plenty of notice.
- Marketing efforts to educate community about bird sanctuary in general, and this Fall's clean-up campaign in particular, to be pursued (Tom Collins) perhaps with article and coverage in The Sun.

- Discussion about a tour of bird sanctuary. Will start small with Imagine Hamburg members, before reaching out to the public. Adrienne (a member of Imagine Hamburg) will bring it up at their next meeting on 8/14/18. Andy is willing to conduct the tour. It was decided that as a landscape architect he would have the most knowledge of the surroundings. Other members will provide help.
- Pedestrian Bridge Project – from overlook to bird sanctuary – may get concrete (30 yards) donated; more funds might be solicited from Ralph Wilson Foundation if we can tie in with their goals. Also, awaiting on information from Paul Becker regarding \$10 million grant for village, which would include funding for the bridge.

V. Other Ongoing Projects

- Trash/Recycling Receptacles – requested in our budget: Mark D noted that existing receptacles are being emptied twice a week but people are still putting trash in recycling sides (cross contamination). Recommended we see if better signage might alleviate and increase recycling rates.
- Dog waste bags/receptacles – due to cost considerations bio-degradable bags may be placed in parks only. Need to do more research. Preference for receptacles to utilize pre-used plastic bags rather than purchasing more bags.

VI. Membership

New members needed for full representation; present members will present possible candidates at September Meeting.

VII. Other Issues Discussed

Grant for trees from NYS Environmental Protection Fund is not presently suited for our tree replacement; they want to be used for stream containment. Perhaps once invasive species cleared in bird sanctuary, we can reapply, but since deadline is September 7 we must reevaluate then wait for next year.

VIII.

Adrienne Punturiero adjourned the meeting at 8:15 – next meeting September 12, 2018

Minutes submitted by: Mike Reilly