

VILLAGE OF HAMBURG ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

Wednesday, November 8, 2017; 7:00 PM

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

Present: **Commission Members:** Chair - Adrienne Punturiero, Village Board Liaison - Mark DiPasquale Edwin Drabek, Mark Mol, Tom Collins, Andy Schrauth

Absent: Stuart Wheaton, Tim McDonald

Bird Sanctuary

- Village waiting for next round of TAP to apply for grant for potential bridge across the creek between the overlook and bird sanctuary
- Mark M. and friend removed vegetation growing into trails
- We should consider "sprucing-up" (removing invasive plants, pruning trees and shrubs) visible part of sanctuary as seen from the overlook to get people interested in the bird sanctuary (develop better awareness of potentials for area)
- Adrienne contacted Logan Bessel, bridge engineer who developed potential bridge concepts; he suggested TAP of FHWA Recreational Trails Program for grants for the project

ACTION: Adrienne to contact Boy Scout Lucas B. to check on the status of his project

Street Trees

- "Re-Green Hamburg" - promotional to push for replanting trees in the Village
- Ed D. expressed that he is against the use of American Elm trees
- Andy S. was asked to & developed potential planting sites along section of Buffalo Street; consider doing this for all of the Village
- Trees are being planted along the Neighborhood Corridor Project in the devel strips; Andy S. worked with the DPW & residents to verify planting locations
- Andy S. working with Joan Fitzgerald to have memorial plaque installed at newly planted tree in the treed park kitty-corner from the Youth Center
- Mark D. discussed Forest Glen's existing Ulmus minor 'Christine Buisman' street trees
 - DPW only targeting removal of trouble trees (those sprouting copious amounts of root sprouts in lawns)
 - Removals and replanting of other tree varieties will be staged in phases

Imagine: Hamburg

- We should attend Imagine: Hamburg meeting (they meet 2nd Tue of the month, 7pm at Community Center) to learn of the projects on which they are working; consider having them tour the bird sanctuary to make them aware of what is going on there

Dare To Repair Cafe Community Event

- Next event is Saturday, Nov 18th from 10am - 2pm at The Foundry, 298 Northampton St, City of Buffalo
- Adrienne met with organizers regarding holding an event in the Southtowns; potentially at Staub Square atrium; she will follow up with this

Erie County Environmental Management Council

- Andy briefed the Commission on current goings on

- Deputy Commissioner Division of Sewerage Management, Joe Fiegl gave presentation on Erie County sewerage treatment including the 7 county sewer districts and 6 treatment plants and pharmaceuticals, one of the contaminants of emerging concern; Wet weather bypassing was also discussed
- Members met with Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz regarding their ECEMC 2017 Annual Recommendations Report that provides information for strategic planning and priority setting for the allocation of resources to address environmental issues facing Erie County including:
 - Renewable energy and energy efficiency projects for the County
 - Support of Smart Growth/Main Street projects
 - Proactive planning to adapt to climate change
 - Update of the 2003 Forest Management Plan
 - More investments in the County Parks system
 - Assistance to municipalities within the County to address their need regarding electronic waste collections

Trash / Recycling Containers Along Village Streets

- Mark D. asked DPW about the potential to do this
- DPW stated that even when both trash/recycling receptacles next to each other, people didn't distinguish between the two
- DPW is willing to work with us to get trash receptacles on major Village streets; asked us to be specific about where exactly to place them
- Existing dual recycling container near Gear for Adventure is awful looking and needs attention or replacement
- we suggest double (trash/recycling) receptacles if need to purchase new containers

Other Discussions

- Trolley Park - the land is not designated as a park (this is a lengthy & involved State process) and could be developed otherwise
- Hamburg Sun article - Adrienne reached out to Mike Petro, Editor, regarding getting a story in the Sun
- Village of Hamburg Parks & Recreation Master Plan - need to reach out to Josh Haeick, Supervisor and Parks & Recreation Commission to discuss working on a plan
- Josh H. brought up issue regarding no dogs in Village parks; restrict them from certain areas; may revise ordinance
- Need for dog bag dispensers in parks & business district; Village Board is looking to us for direction (such as type of bags, where locate, costs, etc.)
- Water Tower Options - replace Charlotte tower with new one to replace both towers OR mothball/dismantle and replace both towers with cell towers and re-hanging other existing "stuff" on towers

Next regularly scheduled meeting - Wednesday, January 10, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Schrauth