# SHEAC / CSC Meeting 1.9.23 Start Time 7:05pm

#### 1. Introductions:

Anne White - SHEAC Co-Chair

Judi Knispel – CSC, joining SHEAC

Deb Wood – lives at Kendal

Sarah Smiley - CSC Co-Chair

Dave Avrin - SHEAC Co-Chair

Ursula Hahn – Kendal resident

Gina Carey

Maya Mendez, along with her mom - sophomore at SHHS

Susanne Jones – Peabody volunteer, on board of Friends of Peabody

Carol Vinzant - Webber Park, Peabody board

Bill Batson – Communications Consultant for SH (zoom)

Stephanie Smart – considering volunteer activities (zoom)

Francois Rjelli – SHEAC (zoom)

Narenda Reddy (zoom)

Dan Convissor – CSC, Bike Tarrytown (zoom)

Kirsten Hase-McLaughlin - CSC Co-Chair (zoom)

# 2. SHEAC Updates & Next Steps

- Background: SHEAC is a standing committee that advises Board of Trustees; CSC Task Force – works on actions that accrue points in NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation certification program
- 1<sup>st</sup> Goal: Recruit new SHEAC members
  - Judi Knispel
  - Kirsten (Kiko) Bourne
  - Looking for 2-3 additional members
    - incl. one high school student Mayor and Superintendent thinks it's best to have 2 HS students, a senior and a junior to keep continuity
    - someone interested in trees b/c new tree ordinance requires that
      2 SHEAC members serve on tree commission

#### Communications

- Great meeting with Bill Batson, Kiko, Judi
- Want to revise the website, make it more user friendly
- Judi working on FB page
- Gina working on Instagram
- Anne met one-on-one with Kiko helpful in strategizing
- 3. Sign-on Letter request: Westchester Alliance for Sustainable Solutions

- Letter asks Westchester Board of Supervisors to hire consultant to study how to shut down incinerator and figure out how to dispose of waste
- Inclined to pass letter on to BOT to ask them to sign
- Zoom meeting from WAAS on Wednesday 1/11 at 7:30pm, sign up if interested

### 4. CSC Updates

- Food scraps Program
  - State grant to promote composting
  - Tabling at community events
  - 5 residents at Kendal are collecting food scraps, Anne is bringing the scraps to the drop off sites.
  - Maya lives in a Tarrytown apartment, tried composting but it was not really feasible. Wants to know if her apt can have a separate bin apart from trash.
  - Discussed possibility of more drop-off sites. Maybe shift some from either Beekman or Continental?
  - Anne & Deb were at an event at the senior center, but there was no place to put food scraps inside. Maybe they can put a bin there?
  - We will have data available on a monthly basis but on a delay because County calculates weight and sends info to Village
  - Curbside pick up is the ultimate goal (swap out one garbage pick up day for food scrap pick up); also hoping to have our own local compost site
  - Anne had requests from residents at Edge-on-Hudson.
  - Pilot program participation might not reflect how many people are interested - more would do it if it's more accessible
- GHG Inventories Sarah and Char worked on reports, which provide baselines for reducing emissions; will be the jumping off point for the Climate Action Plan.
   Reports will be on the village website soon. Village issuing RFP to hire consultant to lead CAP process - will lead to more actions that earn CSC points.
- BOT Resolutions: food scrap sites, LED streetlight conversion, heat pumps at new DPW, solar at DPW
- Pending BOT approval: Green Purchasing Policy (office supplies, construction material, etc.) and Energy Benchmarking policy. The state released its own template of a green purchasing policy, will send that to BOT for consideration
- CEC Grants 2 grants, \$5k each. Ideas that have been discussed include:
  - Electric landscaping equipment
  - Mini grants for local businesses sustainable take out containers, induction stoves
  - Electric cargo bike for DPW
  - Open to further discussion
- Fleet Efficiency Policy Judi
  - Phase out/reduce Village vehicles that use fossil fuels
  - At time of vehicle replacement, purchase electric replacements

• Gina: Repair Café April 15<sup>th</sup> at Neighborhood House, co-sponsor with TEAC, we will distro marketing material. Fixers travel the state to serve at these events, but we also want to recruit volunteers locally.

## 5. Organization of SHEAC/CSC

- Develop a calendar of events should build our own calendar of events where we want to be represented. Ex: CSC member talking at Kendal, talking at C2 meeting. Food scraps should be a main focus. There might be unlikely partners – Chamber of Commerce representative was interested
  - Should our meetings be on Communitycalendar10591?
- Sub-committees that work between meetings
  - Communications
- Should we work in small groups, or individuals work on different things?
  - o think of areas of focus; communications in itself is a big deal
  - depends on initiative, a policy can be one or two people, but other topics might be broader (complete streets)
- Other initiatives:
  - Complete Streets small group working on 3 intersections, how do we add longer term goals?
  - Tree commission is a real urgency. SHEAC should invite the tree officer to attend a meeting and give a presentation. Gina – put a blurb in the next newsletter. Dan – village did tree inventory a year ago.
  - Community Garden Diana Loja is going to set one up.
  - Pollinator Gardens SHEAC can help consolidate efforts, there is no one group organizing it. Peabody is doing a vine-cutting in March, would be great to get a wider audience for that through SHEAC.
- Create a chart to show what SHEAC/CSC is working on
- Communications
  - Take photos at events
  - Would love to add videos to website
  - Bill collecting archives of photos. Will create a shared folder for photos.
  - o Include descriptions of activities on website
  - Send out info through neighborhood associations
  - Kiko updating the website, working with Dan to fix some issues with it. Then link it to FB and instagram accounts.
- 6. Discussed idea of food scrap recycling in the schools Maya
  - Promote the idea, get parents to start doing it
  - Maya is in SPEAR (environmental club)
  - Anne hoping to get info from Superintendent
  - Add compost bins with signs; educate beforehand
  - Susanne some schools have "Recycling Rangers" program, but need a teacher to lead it

- Maybe a week long pilot program, see if Village would pick up the food scraps;
  weigh how much food scraps there are
- Find students who would want to do a video about it
- Dave perhaps use CEC grant money to pay for pick up for pilot program?
- Discussed plastic recycling in Westchester they are carefully sorted and sold; Ursula Kendal uses private haulers, have been told that only cardboard is sold.

### 7. New Business

- Riversweep Dave
  - o May 6, 2023
  - Last year we did Devries Park; Judi and Char did Horan's Landing (they will will do that location again this year)
  - Dave will be out of town for it this year; need help executing it
  - Sometimes this event gets mixed up with Earth Day
  - Add this to the event calendar to discuss at the next meeting. Gina is creating a google doc.
  - Arbor Day? Village does something, but usually doesn't involve SHEAC.
  - o Bill will bring info to the next meeting about Earth Day and Arbor Day.
- Anne working on coordinating with TEAC; proposal to table at TASH once a month