



# Conservation Committee

## Minutes

October 1, 2020 7:00 P.M.

Via teleconference

### 1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members present: Joshua Liberatore, Henry Tomasiewicz, Bella Peaslee, Chuck. Hagner, Linda Frank, Caroline Kuebler, Pat Wilson, Donna Pollock, Maggie Pipek, and Kendra Carey

Others Present: Assistant Village Manager Tyler Burkart, Village Horticulturist Ben Habanek, Village Trustee Wesley Warren

Not present: Meenal Atre, Matt McGovern, and Elisabeth Witt

### 2. Approve September 3, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Pollock moved to approve the September 3, 2020 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tomasiewicz. Vote 10-0 approve the minutes.

### 3. Discuss Citizen Concerns

No citizen concerns.

### 4. Staff Liaison Updates

Mr. Burkart introduced Mr. Ben Habanek who is in attendance to provide a report on DPW forestry practices. Committee members applauded the efforts of DPW with the recent tree plantings thus far. There was discussion about the tree diversity in the current cycle of tree plantings. Mr. Habanek talked about the impact of the Emerald Ash Borer on untreated trees and the process for treating the trees. Mr. Habanek answered a question about the ways DPW uses wood from trees that are taken down due to the EAB. There was also a dialogue about the communication and education done for residents on how to take care of a new tree outside of their home.

Mr. Burkart mentioned the Village Board asked to consider eliminate the purchasing of carts for the organics collection program. After reviewing the request with Melissa from Compost Crusader, both Village staff and Compost Crusader felt that Compost Crusader purchasing and owning the carts moving forward is in the best interest for both parties. Compost Crusader will be able to add people on the routes as they desire now, and the Village won't need to use DPW management's time on cart maintenance. New participants will see a slight rate increase as the purchasing of the carts will be factored into the rate. There will be no rate changes for current participants.

Lastly, Mr. Burkart reminds the Committee that Mr. Liberatore will be presenting to the Village Board on November 2 on behalf of the Committee to highlight initiatives completed. All committee members are welcome to attend to support Mr. Liberatore.

**5. Discuss Energy Improvements Completed as Recommended by the Energy Audit**

Mr. Liberatore mentioned the energy audit memo provided by staff highlighting accomplishments in the past 2 years that were recommendations from the energy audit. Mr. Burkart indicated there would be no items from the energy audit in the 2021 budget proposal due to high cost building maintenance items and a new generator. Staff will continue to review the audit on an annual basis to identify other improvements needed.

**6. Discuss 2020 Sustainability Scorecard and Future Dashboard**

Ms. Frank presented on the sustainability dashboard concept. The presentation showed how the dashboard would engage community members through the website and other communication. There was discussion about ways the data would be collected. The thought is for the scorecard to be developed on the Village's website. The Committee would need to discuss how to market and design the scorecard. Other ideas were generated outside of energy, waste collection, and water (for example – metrics involving birds).

**7. Subcommittee Reports**

No reports.

**8. Upcoming Events, Member Topics & Suggestions**

No other updates.

**9. Adjournment**

Mr. Tomasiewicz moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Pollock. Vote 10-0 to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart  
Assistant Village Manager