

Town of Germantown  
Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Committee  
June 1, 2020 7pm Meeting Minutes

Members in attendance: Jen Crawford, Amy Davison, Barbara Hughey, Christina Bohnsack, Ellen Jouret-Epstein, Jo Hills, Jan Borchert, Karen Targove, Martin Overington, William Shannon. Town Board member Kaare Christian and member of the public Arabella Shannon observed.

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Minutes prepared by Karen Targove

Chairperson Jen opened the meeting at approximately 7:04 pm.

**Review and Approve May 4 Minutes:**

2<sup>nd</sup> draft of minutes inclusive of committee member edits were displayed on shared and reviewed.

*Motion to accept amended May 4<sup>th</sup> 2020 meeting minutes:*

*Moved by: Ellen Jouret-Epstein; Seconded by: Barbara Hughey; All approved*

**Establishment of LWRP Committee meeting time:**

*Motion: Establish 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month as LWRP meeting date:*

*Moved by: Christina Bohnsack; Seconded by Karen Targove; All approved*

*Motion: Establish 90-minute period for monthly meeting.*

*Moved by Karen Targove; Seconded by Martin Overington; All approved*

**Review of Document to be Submitted to DOS**

Review of document for submission to DOS for establishment of our committee. Document to show committee represents a variety of stakeholders in our community and is qualified for the task as defined. Committee chairperson offered opportunity for members to edit their current committee affiliations and /or qualifications. Two members requested time to edit and resubmit. Chairperson asked for edits by Friday June 12.

### **Involvement of County and State Department Employees as Committee Members**

Ellen Jouret –Epstein emailed Columbia Land Conservancy. CLC wants to be helpful where it can, although they cannot accept a permanent committee seat.

Jen Crawford goal to get DOT representation. Spoke with 3 people at DOT:

Mike Shaefer, PE NYSDOT Region 8 Design Engineer and  
Lynn Weiskopf, NYSDOT Director of the Office of Policy, Planning & Performance  
both recommended that Sandra Jobson, NYSDOT Region 8 Planning and Programming Manager, participate in our committee. Mike also recommended we generally plan to consult with Greg Hart, NYSDOT Region 8 Rail Coordinator.

MaryAnn Chiffolo, PE, NYSDOT Project Manager of the Rail Projects Group, recommended that we ask Bill Hollister of Amtrak join our committee.

Will also try to reach out to Gregg Hart the Region 8 Rail coordinator

Ellen Jouet-Epstein suggested instead of full time committee attendance, we offer the opportunity for county and state department members to zoom into meetings on an as need basis, thereby increasing the likelihood of increased involvement.

### **Discussion of workplan task 3: procurement of consultant**

- Does town board have a template for RFPs, and their requirements. TBD
- Suggestion to include Peter Melewski in RFP due to experience and knowledge
- Ultimate decision for consultant rests on town board although committee makes recommendations
- Jan Borchert shared a DOS document for RFP procedure (ie) content to include, pitfalls to avoid

### **Waterfront “Current” Events**

Christina Bohnsack and Jen Crawford –community priorities as gleaned from Scenic Hudson survey conducted January 2020. The Germantown Waterfront committee will review priorities and provide feedback to Scenic Hudson

#### GERMANTOWN PRIORITIES:

Cheviot north to Ice House Landing and beyond:

Keep access road open between Cheviot and Ernest R. Lasher, Jr. Memorial Park.

Longer term, work with Germantown WAC to create a trail from Cheviot Landing Park northward to the Town-owned waterfront parcel known as Ice House Landing. This is a future Greenway Water Trail Site (HRAP pgs. 121-122).

Germantown Lower Main Street: Create a riverfront park with a low barrier/fencing (details can be discussed with Amtrak/DOT) directing people to cross at an at-grade pedestrian crossing. This park should eventually connect as described above south to Cheviot Park and north to Ernest R. Lasher, Jr. Memorial Park (HRAP pgs. 125-126).

These are not new access points, but rather, fencing/barrier alternatives that municipal officials would like to see in Germantown, Stockport, and Stuyvesant:

- Ernest R. Lasher, Jr. Memorial Park: Context sensitive barriers rather than impasse fencing to keep people away from the tracks (pgs. 131-132).

#### **Meeting End 8:07 PM**

Note: This meeting was recorded by Zoom and is saved to the Town's Zoom cloud account. Video will be posted online, and the meeting will be transcribed once a preferred method is established by the Town Board.