

Minutes
Waterfront Advisory Committee
Zoom
August 3, 2020

Attending: Christina Bohnsack, Donald Dubac, Doris Dubac, Kaare Christian, Martin Overington

Meeting called to order at 7:05 by Chairman Christina Bohnsack

OLD BUSINESS

Cheviot Kiosk

At the last meeting of the Parks Commission a decision was made to pay for park kiosks, beginning with one at Cheviot. The cost would be about \$850 a piece and would include a glass enclosed pegboard area and printing. WAC will ask the Board to confirm that Town Board agrees to this and to consolidating signs in the parks on/in the kiosks. Parks is looking for a graphic designer and WAC should research who/how to get the text and images printed for the kiosk.

Clean Energy Committee

Donald Dubac reported that there is no money left over for disbursement in our district but there will be a similar grant offering sometime in the beginning of September.

NEW BUSINESS

Riversweep and Ice House Landing

Germantown did a full riversweep of its own in the spring and does not have the need to join in with the annual Riverkeeper Riversweep. Discussion followed about whether we could plan a clean-up at Ice House Landing and if so should we schedule it for

the Riverkeeper Riversweep weekend or plan it on our own, as a WAC initiative or as just a group of concerned townspeople. Martin Overington was not sure if the town would offer its trucks to haul away brush. Bohnsack will talk with Billy Shannon about this. Masks and social distancing will be required. We will continue to support Riverkeeper.

Lisa Strumpf, formerly of Hudson River Recycling Workshop, is planning to kayak down the river from Troy to Manhattan picking up objects from the river to use in art projects. She asked if there were a place where she could camp out along the river in Germantown.

Roe Jan Watershed Sampling

The Roe Jan Watershed Community is sampling the Roe Jan as it does every year but because of covid-19 restrictions many of our experienced volunteers cannot participate. Samplers must be experienced and the two partners must be living in the same household.

Germantown Neighborhood Associatio

Bohnsack and Kaare Christian met with Don Westmore and Dorothy Montague of the Germantown Neighborhood Association about a possible donation from the GNA to WAC for upgrades at Ice House Landing, replacement of trees at Cheviot, and/or sustainable improvements the shoreline at Lasher Park. WAC should write up a proposal for her about we would use this donation to make more money so that we could have more money to achieve our needs.

Lasher Park Shoreline Stabilization

The GNA donation segued into a plan to raise the land at Lasher Park. The bern (sea wall) at a vulnerable spot in the park is now 18 inches above the land behind the bern. If we added dirt to a

10th of an acre for 10 to 20 years (and no major catastrophic floods occurred during that time) the park would be stabilized.

Park Planning and Communication

Over the past few months town decisions have been made that affect the parks and waterfront without consulting the Parks Commission or the WAC or the LWRP. In some instances knowledge of these decisions has reached these groups before action took place and these groups were included in further decision making. Some of them include: cutting down trees, planting trees, drawing up regulations and posting signs, opening up new access to the river. Our three committees should meet to determine who is responsible for what, since there is much overlap, and how to prevent us from being surprised by town actions that conflict with what we have been planning.

One way to get concerns addressed at town meetings is to send a copy of the letter written to the Town to Joyce Vale also, who reports on letters received at the meetings.

Next Meeting Monday, August 3rd

Meeting adjourned at 8:23