

Town of Mamaroneck Sustainability Collaborative

Meeting Notes January 11, 2022

(Meeting via Zoom, Senior Center 6pm – 8pm)

Attendees: Mitch Green, Sue Odierna, Arlene Novich, Mark Kramer, Mark Manley, Marc Karell, Karen Khor, June Wallach, Michele Lewis, Nick Zuba, Kevin Crowe, Beth Radow, Elizabeth Poyet, Eliza Pertz, George Roniger, Mireille (Miray) Ferrier, Arlene Novich, Judy Caputo, Laura Wertkin, Judy Caputo, new volunteers Dami and Evie Burckin, TB members Jeffery King and Robin Nichinsky

Newly-appointed Co-Chair June Wallach, along with Co-Chair Karen Khor, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Town Board Liaison Jeff King thanked the Collaborative for their volunteerism and explained that liaisons are often changed so that they can experience different committees. With that, Jeff introduced new TB member Robin Nichinsky, who will now be the liaison to the Collaborative from the Board.

Notes of December 7, 2021 meeting were accepted.

Karen shared her screen to show the Collaborative that we would be focusing on three topics

1) Climate Smart Community recertification

2) Climate Emergency Action Plan

3) Community Outreach & Engagement

Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Certification

June updated on behalf of Denise Dunn and Kat Warwick who have been working on the CSC recertification for the Town. This was an effort they made consisting of over 100 hours of work over several months. (Though the CSC certification application was submitted on January 6th, Denise and Kat are still working to gather data for additional actions to lead to additional points to move us toward “silver” certification during a future recertification time period.)

For newer volunteers in the Collab, June explained what the program is all about, that it is sponsored by the NYS DEC and its goals are for communities to take various actions in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To motivate communities to do so, grants can be applied for, rebates are available (the Town has received grants for our EV Charging Stations) and municipalities enjoy the status of being a top environmentally-aware community in NY State. June added that since the Collaborative is also supporting the Climate Emergency Declaration the Town has adopted, the tasks, goals and results overlap. There was spirited discussion about all of the efforts the Collaborative has made over the years and questions about whether or not this work was included in the application and “counts.” June explained that the work is arduous and some actions one would think would result in a large amount of points actually do not. She felt it would be helpful for the Collaborative to see exactly what the actions are, and the labor involved in them.

Update: See attachment created by Collab/CSC Volunteer Denise Dunn illustrating the many actions involved in the CSC certification. Actions relevant to the Town are color-coded based on whether they were approved (gold),

completed and awaiting review (green), require further attention to gain points (yellow), and not yet undertaken (no color). As mentioned above, the Climate Smart Community application was submitted to the DEC earlier this month.

Climate Emergency Declaration Plan

Karen reminded Collabs that on November 17, 2021 the Town Board adopted the Climate Emergency Declaration, joining over 2,000 other municipalities worldwide. This means that the Town recognizes there is a climate emergency and this commits the Town to take actions to respond to the requirements of NYS Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. The Collaborative has been directed to help the Town develop a response to this climate emergency and present a draft response by Sept 2022 to the Board.

Karen then reviewed what the Collabs' "Climate Emergency Response Plan" involves.

- **Phase 1:** *Reviewing the original draft plan that the Collaborative wrote in 2014. (June reminded the Collabs that this draft plan is listed on the Collab page of the website), creating three sub-groups a) quality of life led by June, b) resilience led by Mitch, c) sustainability led by Karen. The goal is to complete this phase by end of January.*
- **Phase Two** – *Gather additional input (case studies, interviews with Town staff, NYS-level research, etc.) to fully inform the recommendations to the TB, goal by end of February.*
- **Phase Three** – *Integrate phases one and two to outline the Climate Emergency Plan*
- **Phase Four** – *Draft Climate Emergency Response*
- **Phase Five** – *Finalize Climate Emergency Response*

Discussion ensued about various elements of the above including if it would be helpful to partner with the Villages on above. Council Member/Liaison to the Collaborative Robin Nichinsky reminded the group that this is a declaration adopted by the Town and while it may be helpful to see what the Villages are doing, this plan is solely responsive to the Town.

Community Outreach and Engagement

June explained that the Collaborative will be creating a communications strategy that encompasses all the projects the group does. A worksheet will be provided that will be part of the planning process for each event/project. June reiterated that in order to get residents more involved, the "ask" has to be fun, easy and rewarding. We need to help residents to see that environmental efforts do not have to be labor intensive, that any small effort is valuable and is appreciated. Discussion about the fact that community outreach is not a "side project," it actually is part of everything the Collaborative does. June mentioned other ways we can get the word out -- increased social media presence, PSA's with LMC Media, increased person-to-person events.

Discussion about "branding" -- June emphasized that our brand needs to be that of the Town (not the Collaborative or specific Collab projects, though "Love your Food" has a logo/brand, but that's more of the exception to the rule). June explained we are actually promoting Town resources for residents. Robin added that the Comprehensive Plan is getting started and that the Town is committed to it and part of that plan may be a (potentially new) branding of the Town.

General Discussion followed related to Maxwell Avenue Recycling Center's hours and the fact that the facility has been closed several times on Saturdays. Also, discussion about when the Tree Code will get revised, when/if we

will have a Compost Day this spring, an Emelin-held event from about a decade ago that Beth Radow was part of regarding trees (can still be viewed on LMC Media's website under League of Women Voters' page).

A big thank you went out to Mitch Green who was Chair of the Collaborative for six years and all are happy to see he will remain an active member. Also thanked was long-time member Frank Owens who needed to step away to tend to personal affairs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM

The next meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

Town of Mamaroneck Sustainability Collaborative

Meeting Notes February 1, 2022

(Meeting via Zoom and on LMC-Media)

Attendees: Mitch Green, Sue Odierna, Arlene Novich, Mark Kramer, Karen Khor, June Wallach, Michele Lewis, Nick Zuba, Kevin Crowe, Elizabeth Poyet, George Roniger, Mireille (Miray) Ferrier, Arlene Novich, Judy Caputo, Denise Dunn, Judy Caputo, and Robin Nichinsky

Co-chairs June Wallach and Karen Khor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Notes of January 11, 2022 meeting were accepted.

June explained that the focus of tonight's meeting was to review the recommendations of three newly-formed groups (Sustainability, Quality of Life and Resilience) each of whom are tasked with suggesting priorities for the Town Board to consider as part of their Climate Emergency Response. The assessment criteria used to rate the recommendations was the environmental impact of the idea, the resource requirement (staff needed/funding) and the timing necessary to implement the idea (short-term, mid-term or over several years)

Karen shared her screen to show the Collaborative details:

Sustainability Team (Karen, Judy, Mark Manley, Mark Kramer, Marc Karell)

Three recommendations were:

- *Ensuring recycling bins are next to all trash bins in Town parks, offices and at events*
- *Expand access to food scrap drop off to increase participation in food scrap recycling*
- *Pilot curbside pickup of food scraps*

Note: Denise to follow up with our Climate Smart Community consultant to determine the Town's recycling requirements/documentation needed to acquire points for this action

Quality of Life (June, Steve M. George, Elizabeth P., Michele L.)

Three recommendations were:

- *Ban gasoline-powered leaf blowers year round*
- *Paint bike lanes as part of Highway Dept roadwork/install more bike racks in Town spaces*
- *Add native shrubs/plants to Town properties*

Resilience (Mitch, Marc Karell, Mark Manley, Michele, Mireille., Kevin, Nick, Arlene, Denise)

Five recommendations were:

- *Update Town Tree Code (20,000 square foot permit minimum removed, expand tree coverage)*
- *Town to join C-PACE (financing) program to facilitate energy efficiency upgrades (commercial/multi-family dwellings)*
- *Update Town Code to exempt qualifying permeable paving from impervious area calculations*
- *Town to phase out oil and gas use in Town facilities*
- *Town to advise residents to install backflow preventers (for houses w/below-grade plumbing)*

Discussion about CPACE and if it includes residential properties (it does not). However, there is another program called PACE that contains the residential element and if New York State approves it at some point in the future, the Town can then opt in to that as well. Further discussion about the fact that these 11 recommendations are not everything the Collaborative wants/ needs to do but these are the priorities. Before the first draft is written, phase two needs to happen. Additional input will be gathered to then fully inform the TB with the goal of doing so by the end of February. Comments about how so much of above is relevant to flooding and perhaps flooding and run-off should be mentioned as part of the priorities. There were a variety of questions that came up

related to the Building Department, Town Engineer, Conservation and more due diligence is to be done to flesh out further as part of phase two.

Upcoming Collaborative Events

Karen and June announced the below calendar events. June and former Town Supervisor Nancy Seligson are on the panel for the March 8th event as well as Larchmont Environmental Committee Co-Chair, Lisa McDonald.

Karen announced that the Collaborative is looking for a Volunteer Coordinator for various events, hoping a Collaborative volunteer will step up to take on this role.

MONTH	EVENT
March 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tues., March 8th @ 7:45AM Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit on "Sustainable Landscaping"• Mon., March 28th @ 7PM Free community class on "A Busy Person's Guide to a Lush Lawn and Beautiful, Healthy Yard" through Larchmont-Mamaroneck Center for Continuing Education
April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sat., April 23rd (TBD) ToM's Annual Spring Cleanup• Sat., April 23rd, 1-4PM LEC's Earth Day Celebration at Constitution Park• Sat., April 30th (TBD) 5th Annual Compost Giveaway

News & Events

Karen reported that the Town's Comprehensive Plan is back on track and that she is happy to be a member of the Steering Committee. Robin said it's great to have the Collaborative represented so that environmental issues will be prioritized in the Town's plan.

Karen also reported that the Village of Mamaroneck passed a resolution announcing that food scraps are now labelled a recyclable item, the importance of which is that food scraps are officially part of their Sanitation Department and their union agreements. Karen is to meet with the VoM Committee for the Environment Chair Ellen Silver to determine how this came to be and see how the Town could potentially do this as well.

Comments about the lack of compostable bags available at Maxwell Avenue Recycling Center. Karen mentioned they are on order. Judy mentioned that the produce bags at Stop and Shop in New Rochelle are BPI compostable.

Mark K. asked if the "Larchmont Farmers Market" topic can be put on an upcoming agenda to determine what the Collaborative's place will be once the market returns in the spring.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM

The next meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

Town of Mamaroneck Sustainability Collaborative

Meeting Notes March 1, 2022

(Meeting via Zoom and on LMC-Media)

Attendees: Mitch Green, Sue Odierna, Arlene Novich, Mark Kramer, Karen Khor, June Wallach, Michele Lewis, Nick Zuba, Kevin Crowe, Elizabeth Poyet, Judy Caputo, Denise Dunn, Allen Reiter, Jacob Levitt, Kat Warwick and Robin Nichinsky

Co-chairs June Wallach and Karen Khor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Notes of February 1, 2022 meeting were accepted.

The question was raised as to whether or not the Sustainability Collaborative needs a quorum and Sue reported that she didn't think so since the "Collab" is not a decision-making committee, but an advisory committee.

Note: Sue confirmed with Supervisor Elkind Eney that we do not need a quorum

Update on Supervisor/Town Administrator Meeting

Karen reported that she and June met with Supervisor Jaine Elkind Eney and Town Administrator Meredith Robson and asked June to update Collabs. June reported that they had a very productive meeting, that Jaine/Meredith are very supportive of the Collaborative and that they see the committee's work as a priority in the Town. Jaine said she wants to have a "fresh start" with the Collab and that she'd prefer to see ideas and recommendations in draft form, earlier than has been done in the past. This way, valuable time won't be wasted for everyone. Bulleted objectives – even in draft form – are more helpful than hearing ideas for the first time at a TB meeting. New volunteer Allen Reiter agreed that this is a better system – similar to lobbying methods with gov't officials.

Also discussed was the Comprehensive Plan and how important it will be to gather residents' input on what the future of the Town should be, what their vision is. Karen mentioned she is on the Steering Committee of the Comprehensive Plan and that there will be many opportunities for residents to make an impact on the Town's future starting this spring.

Also discussed with Jaine and Meredith was the tree code, that the staff is reviewing and yes, it is taking awhile but it is in the works. Separately, Food Scrap curbside pickup is still an option, but because the restructuring of the Larch/Mam'k Sanitation Commission is in the works, they cannot make decisions about this initiative now.

Karen mentioned that the Town has been certified as a Climate Smart Community at the bronze level, but we are not to publicize it until the DEC sends out a press release announcing it. Karen thanked Denise Dunn and MHS intern Kat Warwick for their many, many hours of work in getting this done. Karen reminded the Collabs that this certification is good for five years, so we cannot "rest on our laurels" and we need to document all that we do for the next recertification (and also to get to the next level, "silver"). Also it's important to integrate all that we do into the NYS Climate Emergency Response.

Update: Press release went out to our media list on March 31st and it was also included in Jaine's March E-Newsletter and posted to our website

CSPACE Review

Nick gave a presentation reviewing C-PACE. In a nutshell, C-PACE is a financing program for energy-efficiency improvements that – if the Town opts in -- qualifying property owners could participate in. In the past, the Town has been reluctant to opt into this program, but important modifications have been made and Nick would like to encourage the Town Board to opt into this program. Nick also related this presentation to the fact that presentations of any of our initiatives should basically be a one-pager that simplifies the message as stakeholders are busy and we need to “softly,” respectfully and briefly get to the point. There are different types of stakeholders and we need to approach them differently as some will agree, some will dissent, some are on the fence.

Upcoming Events

- *Karen reported that she is assembling a team of volunteers for the Farmers Market table where Collab volunteers can promote our programs as well as promote the Collaborative itself (recruiting more volunteers). Proposed dates are **5/14, 6/ 11, 7/9 and 9/10 from 8:15am – 11:30am** (two separate shifts in that timeframe). Karen needs help with on-site coordination, set-up and break-down and volunteer recruitment and asked that interested volunteers contact her.*
- *School events on Earth Day, Friday, April 22nd Murray Avenue School and Central School, 3pm – 4pm. Volunteers needed for these events, contact Karen.*
- *Other community events - LEC’s Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 23rd in Constitution Park*

(Two other events that have since occurred were also promoted – Summit Meeting featuring LEC’s Lisa McDonald, June and former Supervisor Nancy Seligson as well as the Center for Continuing Ed class on Healthy Yards/Landscaping)

Other Q & A

Questions asked as to what the next step(s) are regarding the Collab recommendations for Climate Emergency Response. June explained that no further input from Collabs is needed, June/Karen are outlining/organizing their recommendations/priorities, Robin will review and then the plan is to have Jaine/Meredith review.

Note: Jaine and Meredith both to attend the May Collaborative meeting

Discussion about power failures, generators continually running, excessive amount of blown transformers especially in the North End of Town. Robin suggested that this is a topic to be brought to Town Administrator’s attention.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM

The next meeting will be held in person at the Mamaroneck Senior Center on Tuesday, April 5, 2022.

Town of Mamaroneck Sustainability Collaborative Meeting Notes April 5, 2022

Attendees: Karen Khor, June Wallach, Robin Nichinsky, Mitch Green, Sue Odierna, Arlene Novich, Mark Kramer, Michele Lewis, Nick Zuba, Kevin Crowe, Elizabeth Poyet, Judy Caputo, Allen Reiter, George Roniger, Karin Weisburgh, Matt Thomas, Caroline Silverstone, Dami Burkin, Kat Warwick, Sebastian Gold, Harper (MHS sophomore)

Co-chairs June Wallach and Karen Khor welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Notes of March 2022 meeting were accepted.

Community Outreach & Engagement

A recap was given of March communications and events. The Sustainability Landscaping Summit was held in Larchmont on March 8th. "Healthy Yards/Landscaping" class on March 28th with Larchmont Mamaroneck Center for Continuing Education which had 120 registrants. Upcoming events in April were mentioned with request to be promoted – Earth Day events at schools, Town Cleanup, Larchmont Earth Day, Compost Giveaway Day and GridRewards program for both residents and the Town.

(Note: Programs were promoted widely on website, FB and via E-blasts.)

Update on Climate Emergency Declaration Response

Karen and June updated the Collabs on their meeting with Jaine and Meredith and conversation with (Liaison to the Town Board), Robin to get her feedback as well. They discussed a potential year-long leaf blower ban. Meredith wanted to talk to staff about feasibility of this. Jaine said she's not outright opposed to such a ban. They both noted that they understand the relevance of the Climate Emergency Response. Next steps – Karen and June to reconnect with Meredith on staff's feelings on leaf blower ban. VoL was to have a training session with landscapers but was unable to complete due to the outcry from them. June and Karen met with New Rochelle Deputy Mayor on this topic. They reported that New Ro is focused on getting incentives to stop leaf blowing vs. putting bans in effect. New Rochelle used NYSERDA grant money towards a rebate program to encourage landscapers to switch to electric landscaping equipment. (This was in response to Meredith's request that June and Karen meet with other municipalities to learn about their progress re: landscaping equipment.) June asked for a volunteer to track legislative progress in NYS re: leaf blowers and new Collab Allen Reiter volunteered.

Jaine and Meredith expressed concerns over safety with regard to sharrows. However, bike lanes are considered part of the Comprehensive Plan so there are opportunities for bike lanes.

Town has retained a Grant Consultant. The Collabs are interested to find out if this consultant will work with Collabs as well.

Mayors Monarch (Butterfly) Pledge was signed by Jaine based on actions the Town/Collabs have taken/will take. Must report on progress by year's end.

Larchmont Garden Club donated \$12,000 for plantings at the Senior Center.

Jaine/Meredith indicated interest in having a Town Native Plant Policy whereby – whenever possible – natives will be planted. June and Karen were asked to find language on this from other municipalities.

Update: This was done and a Native Plant Policy was put into effect

Karen/June spoke about the recommendations on sustainability discussed at meeting with Jaine and Meredith:

- 1. Recycling Bins next to all trash cans. Jaine and Meredith reported this is already in place. Need current photos showing this. Also, need official policy on this in gov't buildings and public events. Mark K. mentioned this is not in place at Senior Center*
- 2. Expand access to food scrap recycling. Jaine/Meredith reported that there have been several meetings to reorganize the Sanitation Commission and these meetings are ongoing. Karen mentioned that it's important to f/u each month to see progress of the Commission. Mark K. asked what was the tax increase due to in the Garbage District (11%) and Refuse District (12%). Was it due to OT from the storm?*

Some Collabs mentioned they hoped Jaine and Meredith would come to the May meeting prepared to discuss above items.

Karen and June continued reporting with the Resilience Recommendations:

- 1. Tree Code to be reviewed at April 20th TB meeting. Public hearing will follow at a future meeting where all can comment. Several Collabs spoke out saying they felt they weren't being heard regarding tree code revisions as don't know what part(s) of code opinions were heard. Requested seeing a draft of the tree code. Tree Committee felt the communication process was not great. However, Arlene did comment that she is hopeful because she heard from Conservation Planner Liz Aitchison that staff did look at Village of Mamaroneck and Mount Vernon Tree Codes.*
- 2. CPACE was not felt to be a priority at this time (or at least, not as high a priority as other "to do's"), Nick mentioned his disappointment with this. June suggested they revisit CPACE.*
- 3. Phasing out use of oil and gas at Town buildings. Mitch asked why the Senior Center is using oil especially in view of renovations taking place – why isn't this being considered?*
- 4. Ongoing refrigerant management discussions taking place between rink management and NYSP21 who is doing an evaluation of rink's usage*

Comprehensive Plan

June and Karen updated the group that Tiffany Zezula and Kevin Dworka, Land Use Consultants leading the Town's Comprehensive Plan effort will be attending (virtually) our May meeting to get Collab input on how we see the Town's future. June expressed the good news that she understands sustainability is not one part of the plan but that it flows into everything the Town will be doing.

Update from the Tree Team

It was agreed that the Tree Team will re-send to the Town: the recommended list of native tree species for the Town, tree planting locations in the Town following consultation with Dr. Andrew (Andy) Reinmann of CUNY, and other relevant documents (these were emailed to Jaine and Meredith on April 11, 2022). The Tree Team would like a list of historic/old trees in Town. For the latter point, they suggested to Liz that she get an intern to help with this but Liz has not heard back on this yet from Admin. Mark K. asked if the Town will have summer interns and Sue said it is in discussion. Arlene mentioned that the Village of Mamaroneck is planting 100 trees. June added that Meredith is looking into what we can plant in terms of the quantity.

Meeting ended at 8:15pm.

Town of Mamaroneck Sustainability Collaborative Meeting Notes May 3, 2022

Attendees: Karen Khor, June Wallach, Robin Nichinsky, Mitch Green, Sue Odierna, Arlene Novich, Mark Kramer, Michele Lewis, Nick Zuba, Kevin Crowe, Elizabeth Poyet, Judy Caputo, Allen Reiter, George Roniger, Karin Weisburgh, Mark Manley, Sebastian Gold, Supervisor Jaine Elkind Eney, Administrator Meredith Robson

New attendees: Lee Wexler, Judy Darksy, Judy Herbst, Perri McKinney, Dami (need last name)

Co-chairs June Wallach and Karen Khor asked to approve the Notes of the April 2022 meeting and notes were approved. They welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Town Supervisor Jaine Elkind Eney and Town Administrator Meredith Robson.

Jaine introduced Tiffany Zezula and Kevin Dworka from the PACE Land Use Law Center, our consultants on the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

Guests Tiffany Zezula and Kevin Dworka – Comprehensive Plan

Tiffany gave an overview of her background including that she has worked on several Comprehensive Plans in other Westchester communities such as New Rochelle and Tarrytown. She explained that the Comp Plan is a written formal document, adopted by local legislative body and that all of zoning and other land use ordinances are included and fit in with the Plan. Today's Plans are more thematic and less compartmentalized than in the past, a more holistic approach. Tiffany stated that three elements must be integrated into the plan:

- *Environmental, Social (Education, Community, Standard of Living) and Economic.*

The Project Approach is to:

- *meet with Boards and Staffs*
- *engage the public*
- *translate all into policies (which sets the foundation for potential changes)*
- *12–15-month process*

Kevin Dworka spoke about his part in the process, the Community Needs Assessment – walking/driving around Town. Inventorying what the community needs, lay of the land, compiling data, maps, documents, 2018 Local Revitalization Report. Kevin asked Collabs what specific environmental issues they were concerned about:

Responses included:

- *Flooding*
- *Commutation (Tiffany indicated a Traffic Study would not be done by them.)*
- *Multi-Family Buildings and Energy Codes (both residential and commercial), Resilience of Buildings*
- *How to make Boston Post Road more pleasant*
- *How do we not “throw away” ideas that come out of the Comp Plan?*
- *Noise, re landscapers/leaf blowers, especially with so many now working from home or hybrid working*
- *What is the low hanging fruit? What are the long-term goals?*

(Kevin Dworka responded that the eComp Plan covers a long time period and that policies should reflect that. Within the policy are specific action plans, some with in a year (low hanging), others are pricey, risky legally/financially and take longer (for example a major infrastructure change)

- *EV Charging Stations for those in apt buildings, need a public education campaign for this*
- *Compost pick up at Curb*

- *Teardowns*

The question was asked: based on pandemic changing much of our day-to-day living, how do we create a Comprehensive Plan when the last two years were so different? It was explained that the Town can change as situations (for example: health crisis, inflation, work habits) change. Plan gets modified, policies are designed to endure, but policies can be amended.

Tiffany showed flyers and noted dates of May 4 and May 24 for the listening sessions.

Conversation with Jaine Elkind Eney and Meredith Robson

Discussion about timing of summer internship. Collabs offered assistance to the summer internship program via zooms, conference calls and occasional in-person meetings. Jaine mentioned they are interviewing candidates and that environmental issues will be addressed. Interested candidates should send resume to Jaine.

Update: MHS student and frequent Collab-attende, Sebastian Gold was offered the internship in the Supervisor's office starting end of June when school finishes. Sebastian was also able to work several days after school with intern Kat Warwick to get the lay of the land. We would like to thank Sebastian for taking on this role and also thank Kat for her hard work for the Town/Collabs for many months, working closely with Denise Dunn since the fall/

Discussion about eleven requests from Collabs re: Tree Code. Meredith mentioned that staff has made progress going through list. Jaine went through list, goal by goal. Said she would bring up a year-round ban of gas-powered leaf blowers again with the Town Board. Also, will look at potential NYS law and see progress on that. Wants to get through tree code before tackling leaf blowers. Discussed bike lanes/sharrows. Meredith mentioned it is a bigger concept, can make some policy recommendations re: comp plan. Native plants discussed – Liz working on planting natives wherever possible per new Town policy. Recycling receptacles by all trash cans. Meredith continuing to make sure this happens at Town buildings/offices. Curbside food scrap pickup on hold until Town and VoL determine how the Sanitation Commission will get revamped.

Discussion regarding Maxwell Avenue Recycling Center hours to accommodate more residents/commuters and/or adding another location to drop off food scraps. Meredith and Jaine said they could take a look but the area outside Maxwell is not Town owned and unsupervised drop offs elsewhere could get trash and debris. Items like this are often left outside Maxwell after closing.

Tree Code Policy – first draft from Town Attorney was 4/20/22, also looking at other municipality's tree codes. Next discussion at 5/18/22 Work Session of Town Board meeting. Public hearing to be scheduled following that.

Nick Zuba requested a meeting with Meredith and Jaine re: PACE. To be scheduled.

Update: This has been scheduled for mid-June

Discussion about permeable paving/green infrastructure and that the EPA has grants available for this. Meredith said there are several green elements in the Town Center lot and in the Senior Center parking lot project. Discussion about phasing out oil/gas at Senior Center. Meredith mentioned this is a big deal, not something she can speak to now as far as when. May need a feasibility study. Discussion about Town potentially looking at carbon in the Town (a study?) Suggestions that Mark Manley, Nick Zuba and Marc Karell could assist on this. Discussion about Town better informing residents about backflow preventers. Jaine mentioned WJWW requires this for pools, sprinkler systems, hot tubs and that the Building Inspector can post something to website. Concerns mentioned about Howell Park area with sewer backflow into basements.

Discussion about a moratorium on cutting down trees, that new residents from NYC don't know how important it is to keep trees, that Town budget needs to spend more on trees as Scarsdale and Village of Mam'k do. Meredith explained that other municipalities are larger, have bigger staffs in these departments. She also mentioned that many sustainability initiatives are done here in the Town that most residents, even Collabs, are not aware of, such as the Stormwater improvements, Long Island Sound Watershed Intermunicipal Council, sewer work being done with neighboring communities.

Debrief on Earth Month Events

Mark K. thanked volunteers for their help for Compost Giveaway Day. We learned that 80% of those attending the event recycle their food scraps either in their backyard or through the municipal program. Town Cleanup for Earth Day was a success. Also mentioned is the upcoming Larchmont-Mamaroneck Pollinator Pathway Garden Tour in June.

Meeting ended at 8:15pm.