

## **Minutes to the Village of Ardsley Conservation and Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC), 10/01/20, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

**Attendees:** Mayor Nancy Kaboolian, Asha Bencosme, Michael Fischgrund, Eda Kapsis (facilitator), Lorraine Kuhn, Dave Lew, Ananya Ramkumar, Carol Sommerfield (minutes)

### **Goals for FY 2020/21**

**Summary:** Eda Kapsis provided the CEAC goals for 2020-2021:

1. Measurably reduce the shared, total carbon footprint for the Village of Ardsley by 50% by 2030. Among several efforts, CEAC will launch an 'Ardsley CAN by 2030!' initiative in 4Q2020.
2. Map and inventory Village of Ardsley natural resources and open spaces.

### **Strategies to Achieve Shared Goals**

**Summary:** Eda Kapsis provided the CEAC strategies to achieve the 2020/2021 goals, as well as recent successes:

1. Draw on recommendations of the Village Comprehensive Plan. Current draft may be found at <https://www.ardsleyvillage.com/village-ongoing-projects/new-village-planning-process>. The Village Board plans to adopt a final plan by the end of 2020.
2. Collaborate effectively within our committee and with all stakeholders to develop awareness, informative programs, and solutions to achieve these goals.

#### **Successes:**

- CCA Ardsley Board voted 5-0 to authorize signing of the Westchester Power MoU; documents were signed week of Sept. 7, 2020
- Greenburgh voted Yes as well on Sept. 29th.

#### **Actions:**

1. If not already on the Greenburgh newsletter distribution list, it is recommended to sign up at <https://www.greenburghny.com/list.aspx>. **CEAC Team**

### **Discussion/Review: Work in Progress**

#### **I. Ardsley CAN by 2030! (C. Sommerfield)**

##### **Summary:**

- An overview of the Ardsley CAN by 2030! initiative was provided. This initiative focuses on 1) decarbonization within the 10502 zip code, primarily

focusing on households within Ardsley; 2) Promoting sustainability within the Village, including landscape practices and building an Ardsley Pollinator Pathway.

- A summary of the communication plan for the initial Zoom information seminar was provided. The first seminar will be offered on December 9 and December 14. Communication on the initiative and Zoom session will begin 11/9/20.

***Actions:***

- Update Session I presentation to also include cost savings for each of the carbon footprint reductions actions on Slide 11. ***C. Sommerfield***
- Leverage the Ardsley schools e-mail distribution lists to promote the program. ***E. Kapsis***
- Discuss the Ardsley CAN by 2030! initiative with the Ardsley High School administration to hopefully gain engagement, promotion and support from the school. ***M. Fischgrund with support from E. Kapsis.***
- Potentially offer Session I to HS students and staff. ***M. Fischgrund with support from E. Kapsis and C. Sommerfield***
- Update the communication plan for Session I. Add to the plan: ***C. Sommerfield***
  1. Reaching out to the schools and other institutions (e.g. churches, clubs, Village Board) in Ardsley with the communications about the program and the Zoom session.
  2. Add a post to NextDoor Ardsley on the Zoom sessions.
  3. Inform other CACs of the Ardsley initiative.
  4. Post info on the Zoom Session to Ardsley Moms & Dads Facebook page
- Get the maximum Zoom participants allowed on the Village Zoom account from Larry Tomasso. ***E. Kapsis***
- Review the updated draft for the 1st Zoom presentation and the draft Ardsley CAN by 2030! announcement at the weekly CEAC work meeting on Tuesday, October 6 from 1 pm – 2 pm. CEAC team members are invited to join if able. Contact Eda for the virtual meeting link. ***CEAC team***

**II. Building/Energy Code Review and Update (A. Bencosme)**

***Summary:***

An overview of the NYS CLCPA was provided. The goals are aggressive and will have an impact on both Village Code and policy. The key goals of the CLCPA are:

1. 40% Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction by 2030
2. 85% Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction by 2050
3. 70% of energy derived from renewable sources by 2030

The new rules will contain mandates and incentives for carbon reduction and sustainable practices effecting primarily building codes and transportation. Asha

Bencosme has been reviewing the legislation and the proposed mandates and will keep the Village informed of impacts as the regulations and deadlines become clear.

### **III. Pollinator Pathway (C. Sommerfield)**

#### **Summary:**

- The Ardsley Pollinator Pathway project will be a part of Ardsley CAN by 2030! The goal is to promote landscape practices, both in the Village and in the yards of residents, that will provide food for endangered pollinators.
- The Hastings-on-Hudson Pollinator Pathway team has generously offered Ardsley a clone of their website ([www.hastingspollinatorpathway.org](http://www.hastingspollinatorpathway.org))
- Work will begin in earnest on the Ardsley Pollinator Pathway strategy and communication plan after the launch of Ardsley CAN by 2030! and the subsequent delivery of the first Zoom information session (December/January).

#### **Actions:**

- Have the contact for Ardsley's Pollinator Pathway changed from Mayor Kaboolian to C. Sommerfield. Contact Filippine de Haan for guidance on making the change. **C. Sommerfield**

### **New Opportunities/Team Interest**

**Summary:** Eda Kapsis provided an overview of upcoming CEAC initiatives and asked that those interested in learning more and/or working on them contact her.

1. Open Space and Resource Inventory for Ardsley / **G. Weinberg**
2. EV charging station (the next step in the project is site review) / **table project for now**
3. Planning potential meetings with: 1) Ruth Walter, Chair, Westchester Legislature, Committee on Environment and Health; 2) a CEAC/AHS ETF or intervillage collaboration / **E. Kapsis and M. Fischgrund**
4. Helping E. Kapsis with CEAC social media communications, specifically Twitter / **D. Lew to team with E. Kapsis**
5. NYSERDA opportunities for Clean Energy Communities (see <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/Funding-Opportunities/Current-Funding-Opportunities/->) ; track and follow up / **G. Weinberg**

#### **Actions:**

- Matching as above.

## Open Discussion

No additional topics

## Closing

- Next CEAC meeting (open to the public) will be December 3, 2020 from 7 pm – 8 pm via Zoom
- Upcoming Partner meetings of interest:
  1. ELLA
  2. Rivertowns InterVillage meeting ~October 20 (tbd)
- Website of interest for information on climate reduction solutions and their specific impact: [www.drawdown.org](http://www.drawdown.org)
- The first Wednesday of October is the annual Energy Efficiency Day

### ***Actions:***

- E. Kapsis to send out invitations for the upcoming CEAC bi-monthly meetings. ***E. Kapsis***
- Build awareness of the bi-monthly CEAC meetings and generate increased attendance. ***CEAC team***
- Provide N. Kaboolian with overview information on ELLA. ***E. Kapsis***
- Provide information to the team about events being held for Energy Efficiency Day. ***D. Lew***