

Minutes to the Village of Ardsley Conservation and Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC), 04/01/21, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Attendees: Asha Bencosme, Trustee Liaison Steve Edelstein, Mayor Nancy Kaboolian, Eda Kapsis (facilitator), Lorraine Kuhn, Carol Sommerfield (minutes)

1. Opening (Eda)

Eda opened the meeting at 7:02 pm

2. Ardsley 2021 Earth Month (Carol)

Summary:

- A month of activities and events in alignment with the pillars of **Ardsley CAN by 2030!** will be announced via e-blast on Monday, April 5. Ardsley 2021 Earth Month will be held April 17 to May 17. A central webpage has been developed (<https://www.ardsleycan.org/earth-day-2021>) that list the events and allows for registration.

3. CEC/CSC Task Force: Updates and Milestones (Asha):

A. Climate Smart Communities (CSC)

Summary:

- We are in very good shape for the July application. Thus far we have submitted actions for a total of 92 points and we are working on ensuring we have three priority actions for our submission. Requests for additional information and data has been sent to Village Manager Robson and we will be holding a review of the next actions to be submitted in about a month.
- Asha provided a summary of the CSC Bronze certification application. The goal is to pursue more points (140+) than the required 120 for Bronze certification, which will provide a buffer in the event we are not awarded all points for an action.
- We plan to submit the Bronze application for the July deadline. We should then hear whether we were awarded Bronze certification in the fall. In the event we miss the July application deadline, or are not awarded 120 points in our application, our next window to apply is January 2022.

B. Clean Energy Communities (CEC)

Summary:

- We are also in very good position in terms of CEC points. We have completed four of ten actions and will be receiving a \$5K award from

NYSERDA for that achievement. Additional actions have been completed bringing us to 2,500 points. A number of other actions are underway or under consideration that could bring us to the 3,000 point level and at that point we can apply for a \$10K grant. Achieving 4,000 points opens up more grant money to Ardsley and strategies to achieve that goal in 2021 are being developed.

- The NYStretch energy efficient building code is a high point action in 2021 and on April 5 the Board will receive a presentation on NYStretch.
- The Mayors of Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings-on-Hudson and Irvington have partnered to roll out a Demand Response energy program to residents. Achieving the campaign goals will add 200 points to our CEC total and make us eligible for a \$5K award.
- We are considering a Community Solar campaign for the fall, which would add 200 points to our CEC total and make Ardsley eligible for another \$5K award.

4. CEAC e-lists (Eda)

The team has created segmented distribution lists so that we can target communications by audience. We now have over 200 interested residents on our overall distribution list.

5. Other/Open Discussion/Q&A

None.

6. Closing (Carol)

Next CEAC meeting (open to the public) will be June 3, 2021 from 7 pm – 8 pm via Zoom. CEAC weekly working meetings are held Tuesdays from 1:00 – 3:00.

7. Adjournment (Carol)

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it is the only thing that ever has.” Margaret Mead.

APPENDIX A. CEAC 2021 Goals

Quarters 2020/21	Proposed policy advisory and actions	Community education and engagement
January to March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended Resolutions with focus on development of key programs and reduction of emissions. In order of development / presentation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> CEC / CSC Task Force with a named coordinator (adding at least 30 program pts.) as a subset of CEAC volunteer members in collaboration with Village Hall as needed. Recommended use of low embodied carbon concrete Unified Solar Permit Extend work for EV charger stations (with SW) Work with Village Hall on budget as needed and guidelines to protect habitats and teams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue programming of Ardsley CAN by 2030! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete phases 2 and 3 (Home energy & Pollinators) of Ardsley CAN and ongoing follow up communications / measurement Launch the pollinator pathway website and program Develop and launch an Ardsley CAN website similar to the Ardsley Pollinator Pathway. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announce emission reductions for 2020
April to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend work of CSC and CEC Task Forces to ensure timeliness in seizing opportunities with NYSERDA and related organizations, especially as new Village DPW building is designed and developed. Open Space Inventory: review of draft. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earth Day – Ardsley CAN 2 open Zoom sessions sharing is caring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete phase 4 (Transportation) of Ardsley CAN by 2030! and ongoing follow up communications / measurement