

Village of Hamburg Environmental Conservation Commission  
Minutes of Meeting  
Tuesday, December 5, 2023  
Hamburg Village Hall, 100 Main St., Hamburg, NY 14075

**Present:** Commission Members: Village Board Liaison - Holly Park, Chair- Adrienne Punturiero, Andy Schrauth, Kim Bourke, Gerry Stockmeyer, Stu Wheaton

**Excused:** Kathryn Walsh, Mike Reilly

**Absent:** n/a

**Guest:** n/a

**General Notes:**

- n/a

**Climate Smart:**

- Matt Bourke, Holly, and Jason K. (From UBRI) conducted the Community Solar Campaign kickoff meeting at the Hamburg Public library on November 17th. There were 12 people in attendance who were interested in helping out with the program
- The environmental Commission will submit a video to the state (about 30 seconds) highlighting what the Village accomplished with the Climate Smart Communities program.

**Bird Sanctuary:**

- Gerry gave his update to the group on the research he has conducted on Anna Mae Bacon and the Bird sanctuary. His research led him to the conclusion that our group may want to think about the idea of protecting the land in the Bird sanctuary through some legal means, so that it will always be a natural area. This will be discussed in more detail in future meetings.
- Stu presented an opportunity for the group to consider: The Hamburg High School Academy of Finance needs a spring project, and he thought our group may be able to come up with specific Bird Sanctuary Projects for them.
  - Our group suggested two different ideas: Spreading millings, or doing a targeted invasive plant removal day with these students.
  - Stu will take those ideas back to the group to consider.

**Bird Sanctuary Bridge:**

- Kim submitted the \$50,000 grant application to the Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo for the Ralph Wilson Jr. Legacy Funds to have a feasibility study done for the pedestrian bridge connecting the Overlook Park area to the Bird Sanctuary.
- Awards for the grant will be announced around May 2024

Next meeting date: Tuesday, January ?????, 2023 at Hamburg Village Hall

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Bourke