

Village of Hamburg Environmental Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday, May 8, 2024
Hamburg Village Hall, 100 Main St., Hamburg, NY 14075

Present: Chair- Adrienne Punturiero, Village Liaison - Holly Park, Kim Bourke, Andy Schrauth

Excused: Gerry Stockmeyer, Mike Reilly, Kathryn Walsh, Stu Wheaton

Absent: n/a

Guests: Eagle Scout Candidate - Sam Lafko

General Notes:

- Brush trimming along the Creek below the Overlook tabled until next month
- Frontier School District has an environmental initiative throughout the school district, can we get a hold of someone in the school, and start to do something like this in Hamburg?
- The Hamburg Trails Committee will be hosting a “Meet the Creek” event at the Bird Sanctuary on Saturday June, 8 2024 from 10:00am-noon.
 - Our commission will help out, we can discuss details about our role at our next meeting on June 4, 2024.

Solar/ Climate Smart Communities (CSC)

- Solar campaign tabled at the Earth Day event put on by our Commission at the Palace Theater on April 27, 2024.
- The Climate Smart Community Plaque needs to be hung in Village Hall!!!

Earth Day Movie Event

- The movie event was very successful! We hosted between 200 and 250 visitors at the Palace Theater for the Event.
 - All of the Re-Tree Red Maple saplings were handed out, we also handed out common milkweed seedlings
 - Tables included: Merit Badge Books, Hamburg Community Solar Campaign, SSPP Care for Creation Event, Erie County Soil and Water District Gnome photo booth, Village Engaged, Hamburg Trails Committee, Scouts, Re-Tree
- We definitely want to put this event on again next April (2025)

Re-Tree:

- Tree watering bags arrived, we purchased 8 of them for \$69.99 to be placed on trees purchased through the Re-Tree program, or public area trees (if needed).

Sesquicentennial:

- The tree stake in Glen Meadows Park has been placed where the Bur Oak will be planted for the Sesquicentennial
- Stu sent a draft plaque to the plaque company, we should hear back soon, but will need to move quickly to have the plaque made

ACTIONS: we need to contact the DPW and make sure they have a rock that they can put the plaque on, and it can be delivered to Glen Meadows Park before the Sesquicentennial family picnic on June 30th

Recycling and Composting

- Recycling for the Village is becoming financially unsustainable, can we somehow change the approach to recycling for the Village and Village Residents to save the Village money?
- Because there is a fee associated with Farmer Pirate Compost drop-off bin, the Village is unable to place the bin on their property anywhere. So, if we would like to have a communal compost drop off site, we will need to find a private company/landowner that will allow the bin to be on their lot
- Can we put together an infographic about recycling “failure”?

Bird Sanctuary

- The Bird Sanctuary (and the land across the creek from the sanctuary that abuts S. Buffalo Street just north of the Bridge) is officially Municipal Parkland! There was an article in the Sun on April 26, 2024 stating the achievement.
- Eagle Scout candidate (Sam Lafko) joined us for our meeting to brainstorm ideas he could pursue in the Bird Sanctuary for his project. He intends to complete the project this summer.
- Ideas included:
 - A new Kiosk at the Entrance
 - A photoblind
 - An art installation below the Overlook
 - Redo the Bike Rack in the Bird Sanctuary
 - Park signs throughout the Village
 - Add trails in other Village Parks

Next meeting date: **Tuesday, June 4, 2024** at Village Hall, 100 Main St. Hamburg, NY 14075

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Bourke