

March 10, 2009 7:30PM Village Hall

Attendees: Tom Riorden, Walter Clarke (**WC**), Dawn Williams, Larry Aaronson(**LA**), Jotham Bailey(**JB1**), Barry Zack(**BZ**), Janine Bauer(**JB2**), Peggy Freedson, Sara Jane Jelin (**SJ**)

Discussion:

JB2>\$20,000 grants are available from ANJEC- Planning money to do part of our Village Master Plan. Mostly a land use master plan that's required by law. She suggests DPW yard project that should be well-received by ANJEC, given it's focus on conservation. Our other 2 projects (which are more advocacy projects, not planning), don't seem to fit as well. Maplewood is putting in for planning a bicycle and pedestrian path. We could combine that with our River planning project, which Maplewood would support, and we would offer our support for their bicycle plan. Linking DPW yard with pedestrian walk and Maplewood bicycle path?

Village Master Plan includes goal of cleaning up DPW yard. ANJEC planning money can be used to accomplish the planning portion of this project. Village must match \$20,000 but match can be in kind.

WC> asks if DPW yard would in any way impede plan for River planning. JB2 says not at all. Mario of DPW is also in favor of this proposed plan.

Jim suggests making DPW a wildlife conservation area in the proposal. We should plan a meeting that invites input on how this area could be developed as a wildlife conservation area. Others agree. We should target this year for the plant.

All projects involve three stages:

1. Planning
2. Design and Engineering
3. Getting the funding to do the work.

Federal Stimulus is going to be sending more money to environmental projects.

Motion to send letter to trustees to write ANJEC grant to include the DPW yard improvement/ bicycle path is approved unanimously by commission members.

Other agenda items:

Minutes of previous meeting are approved.

SJ> exchanged emails with Sharon Daour, advisor to CHS environmental club. Expressed interest in our project to sell water bottles. Water fountains at CHS are in dismal condition. SJ will communicate with her again, will be able to present a plan. Need to try to convince students that it's hip to use reusable bottles

Brian Osborne is interested in project as an education project. School district has other issues they would like to bring to us- e.g. problems with recycling at CHS (they are discussing doing away with recycling in building altogether.) Sharon Dauer will be invited to join our next meeting, possibly with student members.

Anti-idling : **WC**>to meet police chief tomorrow with a series of questions, e.g. are you willing to cite people for idling, mostly around pedestrian walkway- limited point, high profile areas. Chief was willing to meet with Walter. Also, anti-idling signs have been purchased to be installed at Sloan Street train station by DPW. Sending crews out to do targeted anti-idling campaigning in front of schools. Girl scouts would be good candidates for this. We should investigate grant possibilities- ask police chief.

JB> suggests that whenever we engage in any action in between meetings, that we inform committee members.

BZ> reports that:

- 1) Aretas believes he is done, has logged in his internship hours. He may be finishing with us. He did a mockup of a brochure. **BZ**> asks that we review content and email our ideas.
- 2) Contacted Anthony Compaglio, CHS teacher in TV production, about making video about idling/exhaust issues. Barry will continue communication with him and report back.
- 3) Commission website- **BZ**> interested in inviting people to submit photos to generate further interest in site. **BZ**>mentions need to get more people visiting site.

JB2> suggests that If Anthony's group doesn't work out, we could bring video project to Environmental Club at CHS. Perhaps they would be interested.

WC> asks if we could ask DPW not to recycle plastic bottles for two weeks, then bring that bottles downtown as visual demonstration of astounding water bottle consumption.

JB1> asks if we could combine sale of special logo water bottles with another composter sale. **SJ>** also planning to contact Seton Hall since "back to the tap" is very organized with college campuses.

BZ> asks if we can also invite members of surrounding towns to contribute to Green Word. It is agreed that we can and should.

JB2> Opportunity to have Rutgers undergrad or grad student from planning school for next academic year, with possibility that intern work on DPW project. Tom reports that it was not a great deal of work to manage intern. JB will respond affirmatively to Rutgers.

New Business:

LA> Painting catchbasins. We have the volunteers.

JB2>Let's plan this for Saturday after next meeting in April; people will sign up for 2-hour stints. If it rains, event must be cancelled.

JB1> Are we interested in another push to sell composters? Agreed that we should continue to pursue this.

We need to get sign up at DPW letting people know the composters are available, how they work ,etc.

Suggestion that DPW use its own budget to have a staff member train individual community members to fence off area of yard to compost leaves. Most community members could devote a space to do this. JB and others suggest that we continue to investigate how to get people composting leaves, setting up leaf collection areas in their yards. etc.