

TOWN OF POMPEY ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 2, 2023

POMPEY TOWN HALL

7:00 PM

MINUTES

Attendees: Phil Austen, Craig Dennis, Kathy Bertuch, Martha Vigliotti, Stan Gorman, Adam Scalisi, Pam O'Malley, John Herrington, via Zoom, Paulie Drexler
Previous minutes were approved

UPDATES:

- New Tier 3 solar project on Frank Long Rd. Formal documents have not been received yet. Planning board gets them first, then on to the town board, and then finally will be referred to us for input. We did receive the Ag and Markets letter referring to the proposed project. As per previous project, the town will probably schedule a site visit that committee members should be able to attend.
- Short term rental regulations are yet to be written, and the committee is not in place yet. Adam expressed an interest in being involved on this.
- NYS Urban Forestry grant, which Martha referred us all to, is designed to increase tree planting and cultivation within urban areas. Discussion of its application to Pompey. All agreed it's a good idea to know what's out there in terms of grants. Thank you, Martha, for keeping us current.
- Discussion of the NYSERDA money, and it's application and use for current town needs, specifically the highway garage (insulation of doors, replacement of some windows, complicated heating systems need to be evaluated, overall energy efficiency) and the town hall (3 windows need replacing/reinstallation, baseboard cracking repaired). Kathy reiterated her husband's offer to do a free energy audit, which must be completed anyway before any of these projects could be applied for and approved. Deadline is March 15, which is fast approaching. Kathy will follow up on the audit getting done.

PROJECT UPDATES:

- ECC Web page : Adam has asked what our capabilities are. We need to decide what we would like to present. Agreed to post a seasonal, by quarter message, containing useful information: burn bans, invasive plants and insects to look out for, etc, with links to credible established sources if appropriate (like USDA). Could also contain background/history information about interesting sites in Pompey. We do need a volunteer to help Adam on this work.
- Seasonal contest: The snowman contest, 2/10-2/26. Contestants submit 1 photo, with name and address, to the correct email address (asking Veronica what that would be) and post it on the town website. Name and address NOT published, just for verification and contact after the contest. Voting to be held 2/27 and 2/28. Discussion of places to post this information besides the town website.
- Earth Day : Trees for distribution have been ordered, will be shipped to receive by 4/15. Several people have offered to contribute to the purchase – shares will be decided when final price including shipping is known. Other participants: Native plant proponents, DEC personnel, Adam's pollinator seed packets, possibly the Boy Scouts, and the Stillwater

Coalition (note – I have no idea who that is, so I may have that wrong). Town will be doing scrap metal and tire collection, paper shredding. Adam has offered to collect used household batteries to bring to ESF's collection point. Suggestions on the possibility of finding some group that may want to raise funds selling coffee/donuts/ etc. at the site during the event. Martha will be doing the flyer again. In case of rain, suggestions of using the highway garage for cover, and the lobby of the town hall.

- Cell Towers: Two more parties have responded to the town's initiative on assessments, bringing the total to around 8. Great news.

Next meeting to be held Thursday, 3/2/23 at 7 pm.

Submitted by
Paulie Drexler
2/3/23