

**GREEN COMMITTEE
AGENDA
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018
2:15 P.M.**

PRESENT: Barry Cheney, Chair
Leigh J. Benton, Kevindaryan Lujan, Laurie R. Tautel, David Church

ALSO

PRESENT: L. Stephen Brescia, Chairman
Katie Bonelli, Majority Leader
Michael D. Paduch, Minority Leader
Paul Ruskiewicz, Legislator
Antoinette Reed, Legislative Counsel
Joseph Mahoney, Assistant County Attorney
Michael Amodio, Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Conservation
Julie Richmond, Deputy Commissioner of Planning
Kate Schmidt, Planner, Planning Department
Mike Ventre, Budget Analyst
Mike Sweeton, Town Supervisor, Town of Warwick
Roger Moss, Sustainable Warwick

Chairman Cheney opened the committee meeting at 2:19 p.m. by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. All committee members were present.

Ms. Richmond addressed the first agenda item, an update on **Complete Streets**. She reviewed the policy (see original minutes) which included; 1.0 Vision and Purpose; 2.0 Principles; 2.1 Complete Streets serve diverse users; 2.2 A connected, integrated transportation network is a critical component of Complete Streets; 2.3 Complete Streets principles apply to all roadways, all project phases; 2.4 Best-practice design criteria and context, sensitive approaches are essential to Complete Streets; 3.0 Jurisdiction; 4.0 Implementation; 5.0 Performance Measures; and 6.0 Exceptions.

Mr. Cheney asked if any municipalities have adopted the policy.

Mr. Church replied yes, Port Jervis, Warwick and the Village of Chester.

The second agenda item was an update on the Mid-Hudson Regional Sustainability Coalition Initiative. Mr. Church explained that years ago, the county led a seven-county region which hosted a \$7 million grant that was sponsored by the governor's office. The plan has been completed and submitted and the update is that there is a representative from the coalition from the seven-county region which continues to meet for a variety of purposes. The initial work that they have had is in the energy sector. He stated the two primary findings from our regions plan is transportation and inefficient buildings. Furthermore, there are quarterly meetings in Newburgh, the next one will be on March 2, 2018. He encourages participation so if any legislators are interested he is asking that they reach out to him.

The third agenda item was new project opportunities which included, **Repair Café, PV on Landfill and Tree Inventory**.

Mr. Cheney stated that the Repair Café is something that is going on throughout the world and locally done in Warwick.

Mr. Roger Moss from Sustainable Warwick explained that Repair Café was a concept that was introduced from the Netherlands to 150 countries now. The idea is very simple, there are people who love to fix things and volunteer their time to come and fix items for free. There are other people in the community who would like to have their things fixed; therefore, they are welcome to come to the Repair Café with their objects and have them fixed. He added that this has grown because it is free and it is a great community builder. There has been interest expressed to do this in Goshen and Middletown.

Mr. Cheney stated the reason he wanted this topic brought to the committee is because it seems to be a good idea and he would like to spread the word.

Regarding PV on Landfill, Ms. Richmond stated there is an opportunity to get technical assistance to have the landfill assessed.

Mr. Church commented this is worth considering to see what the assessment shows.

The last project opportunity is Tree Inventory. Ms. Richmond stated that last year there was a New York State DEC Urban and Community Forestry Grants Program which was due March 1st and will be available again this year. The maximum award is \$50,000.00 for either a tree inventory or a management plan. She added that it was a 25% match required for the tree planting tree maintenance projects but she believes the tree inventory or community forest management plan projects involve no match. Furthermore, tree inventories are encouraged to get a sense of the age, health, and geographic distribution of the species as well as environmental issues. Last year the City of Newburgh received \$50,000.00, and City of Port Jervis and Town of Warwick received \$21,000.00 for tree inventory. She stated that if anyone has any ideas or thoughts of a county application, to please let her know.

Mr. Cheney stated that the last agenda item is Old Business which included updates on EV Charging Stations-Update and Program Expansion Opportunities, Building Energy Benchmarking, and LED Streetlight Replacement.

Mr. Church explained that they applied for and successfully received two grants from New York State Environmental Conservation which secured the full cost of the equipment as well as a multi-year warranty to put EV charging stations in the parking garages of both SUNY campuses. He added that they have been collaborating with the individuals who will be dealing with the utilities. At this point, the project is awaiting the financial arrangements before purchasing the charging stations.

Ms. Richmond pointed out that a study will be done this year in regard to charging stations throughout the county.

In regard to Building Energy Benchmarking, Mr. Church stated the county is now certified by New York State.

Ms. Schmidt gave the new committee member a brief recap of how the county got to this point and what had to be done.

Mr. Cheney addressed the last agenda item, LED Streetlight Replacement. He stated the county has less than 50 streetlights which the Department of Public Works has confirmed and the committee as well as the Planning Department will continue to review this and research getting LED lights to replace the current streetlights.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.