

Town of Germantown  
Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Committee.  
Zoom

December 14, 2020

Members in attendance: Jen Crawford, Jan Borchert, Martin Overington, Christine Bohnsack, Barbara Hughey, Martin Overington, Jo Hills, public observers Kaare Christian and Jess Kuonen of NY Sea Grant

Minutes prepared by Jo Hills

Meeting called to order at 7:04

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes of the November meeting were read and several corrections made. Motion to accept the corrected minutes made by Christina Bohnsack, seconded by Jan Borchert, all approved.

### **RFP**

Jen Crawford, Barbara Hughey and Borchert completed our RFP and sent it in to Town Attorney Corinne Smith and we are now waiting for her reply. We will review it again after she returns it.

### **Microsoft Office Folder**

Up and running.

### **Community Outreach Process and Plan**

Community Outreach is how we will gain consensus in the community for the revitalization of our waterfront (Task 7 of our work plan). It will identify key individuals involved and their responsibilities, and the vision and process. Crawford mentioned the availability of the Office for New Americans and their

Community Navigators as a possible resource. Bohnsack suggested use of the WAC Instagram account, Germantown Waterfront. Community meetings may have to consider online presentations due to pandemic restrictions. We could direct people to online participation by posting signs and perhaps even collecting comments along the waterfront, on the roads, a hallway. We need to encourage people talking to each other as well as to our committee.

Things to investigate: Jamboard, the program that Riverkeeper used for their survey and other online surveys and online breakout rooms.

Our work will revolve around getting unrepresented members of our town involved and adapting to pandemic restrictions on meetings.

## **Current Events**

Bohnsack and Borchert are members of the Climate Smart Communities Task Force. The application for Local Champions was sent in and we should get the reply before the next meeting.

AMTRAK has put in (or repaired) an illegal gate in Hudson which cuts off access to city land and there is a possibility Hudson will be a strong force fighting fences. Crawford walked the Hudson tracks with Nick Zachos (Hudson Youth Center/Hudson Sloop Club) and a reporter. Bohnsack has started a conversation about the fences with Hudson alderman Rebecca Wolff.

Discussion of the confidential AMTRAK's plan put out in the summer of 2020, and the changeover of the federal administration and the new AMTRAK regional supervisor leave us not knowing what to actually expect in 2021.

Jeff Anvensino of Riverkeeper reported that Amtrak put security cameras at crossing at Castleton on Hudson and there are plans

to put them at all crossings. Christian said there are gates with cameras that take pictures at the crossings which are viewed by the conductors in oncoming trains.

Next meeting will be January 11.

Motion to adjourn made by Bohnsack and seconded by Overington at 7:53.