Town of Germantown

Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Committee

September 14, 2020

Meeting Minutes

FINAL - 9/21/2020

Members in attendance: Ellen Jouret-Epstein, Jo Hills, Jan Borchert,, Martin Overing-ton, Christina Bohnsack, Barbara Hughey and Tony Albino. Town Board member Kaare Christian observing.

Location: Virtual Zoom

Meeting Minutes prepared by Jo Hills

Tony Albino, sitting in for Jen Crawford opened the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Review and Approval of Minutes
Minutes of the August 10 meeting were displayed, shared, reviewed.

Motion to accept minutes:
Moved by: Ellen Jouret-Epstein ; Seconded by: Barbara Hughey; All approved

Updates from Jen Crawford presented by Albino
Our grant contract has passed both the program and fiscal review but we still don't have authorization from the Department of the Budget to execute it. Once we do we will have the opportunity to review it with our lawyer before the contract is finalized.

We should include in our thoughts how we might be able to mitigate the issue of sea rise and its effects on Germantown, working with Amtrak for instance and neighboring communities.

Since Crawford will not be able to lead or attend meetings through November due to fire department training, perhaps we should discuss our plan to move forward

NEW BUSINESS
Discussion of the death of the woman on the tracks north of us and its impact on our waterfront program. Kaare Christian placed our efforts on keeping the waterfront open to people. Amtrak should be concerned with keeping people from the tracks, not the water. Perhaps signs in the kiosks on safety and the train speed.

RFP

Jouret-Epstein found a group of RFP's all which seem to have followed the same template and she will add them to our google drive.

Studied Item IX of our RFP
     Claremont Germantown Flats —
     DEC designated - a significant coastal fishery
     Want future projects to come out of the items in Item IX
     Economic Development — connection to the center of town

Duplication of ideas in
     IX — we want you to tell us what your experience is
     X - a list of what we want to us to objectively evaluate this consultant is better or
          that one

     We have to develop a list of what our priorities are — Jan Borchert will write an intro
     to X to clarify to difference between the two

Hughey volunteered to compare our RFP to the samples

Albino will continue to look at the any town's (large, small any) LWRP's to see what consultants were used and for what and see how they approached issues similar to ours.

VISION

We need to have own vision — perhaps we should make our own document explaining our ideas to ourselves.

What do we want to do and when — a timeline

We have to figure out how we want to interpret the state coastal policies and how they apply to Germantown. NY has some 55 coastal policies. Will help with our talking to Amtrak. Shoreline project developers must file a federal consistency assessment form with DOS, a document that details how their plan aligns with those rules.

Our consultant and our community should be partners in developing this vision.

We want to tie our hamlet to our waterfront.

The land included in the LWRP does include private properties and we should consider if there are impacts on these private properties.

CONSULTANTS

Jeff from Scenic Hudson has a list of consultants — list is on our google drive.

Albino said some towns had one consultant and others had more than one. It would be great to have one, but there was no evaluation of which worked better

Next meeting look at the consultants and see what they offer and that may help us make lists of what we want to do and when — a timeline.

The Town Board actually picks the consultant.

SITE VISITS

Christina Bohnsack and Martin Overington will send out a list of dates for site visits.

Waterfront Advisory Committee Report by Christina

Meeting on the kiosks at Roe Jan Park on Wednesday the 23rd at 5 o'clock.

Next meeting; Monday, October 12, 2020
Motion to Adjourn
Moved by Bohnsack; seconded by Jouret-Epstein

Meeting adjourned at 8:25