

Minutes of January 2, 2024 Germantown Town Board LWRP workshop, held in the Germantown Town Hall, 50 Palatine Park Road, Germantown, NY and via Zoom, commencing at 5:47pm.

Present: Supervisor Helsley
Councilman Sullivan
Councilman Kukon
Councilmember Suarez
Councilman Christian

Town Attorney, Corinne Smith

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Supervisor Helsley opened the workshop. Jen Crawford said that Councilman Christian sent the Local Laws that the LWRP has to pass this year. The law they have to pass in order to have an adopted LWRP is the Waterfront Consistency Review Law. Jen said this law defines how the LWRP would be implemented locally. Jen said they are trying to match current regulations. Jen said they would like the board to pass the Harbor Management Law and the Shoreline Protection Law that Councilman Christian wrote the first drafts which had information that the committee had discussed. Councilman Christian said where Germantown is located on the river and how Germantown uses the river we are primarily recreational and there are no commercial boats using the parks. Councilman Christian said that the committee would like to prioritize recreation on our side of the river. Councilman Christian said just south of Lasher Park harbor management goes out 1,500' into the middle of the channel and that is shown on a map that was submitted to DOS. Councilman Christian then said they would like to regulate a few things and keep this mostly recreational and would like to regulate commercial moorings but non-commercial moorings would be permitted. There was discussion on the size of vessels for mooring. Councilman Christian said in the Harbor Management section under anchoring some of the requirements are they didn't want people near the navigational channel, lights at night, boats not anchored for a long period of time and people around to tend to their boats. Jen mentioned that anchoring and mooring are two separate things. Jen said they would like to create a permit system that promotes safety. The Local Laws have not been reviewed by Corinne. Corinne asked if they are waiting for feedback from her and the Town Board then go to DOS prior to adoption. Jen said they will submit it with the full LWRP. Jen will send the draft to Lisa, the consultant before it goes to Corinne. Jen said some of the requirements for permits would be commercial moorings, anchoring more than 72 hours but could get a permit from the harbor master. Supervisor Helsley suggested only permits for commercial mooring. Shoreline protection Local Law. Councilman Christian said our shoreline has been well preserved and by preserving the shoreline they have created a wildlife corridor by not disturbing the wetlands this was noted in the inventory section. Councilman Christian went through the definitions. Councilman Christian said they want to protect the steep slopes and keep the shoreline wetlands in a natural state. Supervisor Helsley asked to define trails and roads. Jen said the goal is the impact on the environment. Jen asked if the Town Board had comments to let her know. Jen will clean-up and circulate to Lisa at DOS. The Town Board scheduled a LWRP workshop for March 12, 2024 at 6:00pm. If anything changes it will be noticed appropriately.

Workshop closed at 6:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,