

## **Town of Shelter Island Green Advisory Committee Minutes of the March 19, 2015 Meeting**

**Members Present:** Chair Tim Purtell, Don D’Amato, Dan Fokine, Herb Stelljes + Town Lawyer Laury Dowd

### **Reusable Bag Campaign**

—The committee looked at several reusable bag samples. We discussed whether the bags should be sold and, if so, for how much. Selling the bags for \$3 (which might be high) would allow for perpetual funding. Donating the bags might get more traction. If bags are sold, the committee needs to explore how this would work with the local stores. Herb suggests we go with 500 bags instead of 1,000 or 1,5000.

—It was suggested that customers sign a pledge (wording to be worked out) when they purchase or pick up a bag.

—The committee will be presenting the Reusable Bag Campaign to the Town Board on Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. Laury suggested a PowerPoint presentation would be helpful. If the campaign is approved and bags are provided by a corporate sponsor, the committee would set up a presentation table at various locations on the Island such as the IGA parking lot, the Farmers Market, and the Heights.

### **Informational Open Space Signs**

—Dan presented a homemade model for informational signs to be placed at the entrance of various Town and 2% properties highlighted on the Open Space Map. The signage will include the official Town metal sign at top, a small painted wood arrow with the name of the property, a plastic box containing copies of the Open Space Map, and a small map of the specific property. The

informational material will either be affixed to a locust post or tree. The signage, which is designed to blend in with the environment, will provide information about each property and help ensure that walkers stay within public property boundaries. We discussed how the signage would complement bronze plaques that have been proposed for the 2% properties. Dan has said that he has enough construction material to create signs. The Green Committee will be presenting the proposed signage to the Town Board for approval. —There was also discussion about removing No Trespassing signs at some of the properties and placing specific signs during deer hunting season.

### **Dickerson Park Meadow**

—The Committee discussed the possibility of creating a meadow on the south side portion of Dickerson Park (the lot that's south of the small cottage). Discussed were the advantages of reduced mowing (fewer carbon emissions) and the opportunity to convert a mowed lawn into a functioning meadow that could be aesthetic and educational as well as serve the very needed function of attracting increasingly vulnerable pollinators such as native bees and butterflies. The committee also discussed design ideas, private funding, and reaching out to Cornell, the Long Island Native Plant Initiative, and the CAC for advice. The committee discussed setting up a volunteer umbrella committee to provide planting and maintenance if a meadow were to be approved by the Town Board. This topic will be taken up again at the next meeting

### **Earth Day**

—Herb suggested establishing an annual program/contest. It could either be a poster, a contest, an essay, recycled art or a community project. There could be a winner's letter of recognition, a small scholarship, or a Reporter interview.

—Laury suggested asking the Town Board to adopt a resolution or something appropriate to formally recognize Earth Day's 45<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. They could do a proclamation and give it to the Green Committee during the April 21<sup>st</sup> work session. It would be a reminder to all of us that the environment is important.