Village of Hamburg Environmental Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 2026
Hamburg Village Hall, 100 Main St., Hamburg, NY 14075

**Members Present**: Adrienne Punturiero - Chair, Holly Park - Liaison, Andy Schrauth, Gerry Stockmeyer, Kim Bourke, Kat Walsh, Stu Wheaton

**Advisory Member**: Marisa Watkins

**Excused:** n/a

**Absent:** Mike Reilly

**Guests**: Jessie Thompson, Samuel Cunningham

**General Notes:**

- Hamburg Sunrise Rotary wants to sponsor an event - Tabled - Mike not present at meeting
- Pollinator Pathway - Resolution is still being worked on, edits will be completed and sent out to the group for input soon. Hoping to have the ordinance ready for NYS invasive species week (June 8-12)
- Hamburg Rejuvenation Project - Town Wide Clean-Up 5/1-31. Register w/town. Adrienne will look into it and send details to the group
- Girl Scouts Service Unit - tree planting/removing trees - Kat has not heard back from the Girl Scouts Service Unit - no update for this meeting, will be discussed in June
- Thomas Dambo gnomes - requirements/process of requesting a commission - minimum of $100,000 for an installation, perhaps a bit out of our league…
- Fabric - 35 lbs saved from landfill - this time from Sans Furniture; distributed to the community
- Andy offered the idea of making Village Seal armbands that Village volunteers to wear at events. Asked Adrienne if she could keep an eye out in her fabric collecting for pieces that would work to make armbands
- Mr. Cunningham (Hamburg HS student) introduced us to the Environmental club at the High school and told us about some of their initiatives.
- New member interest - Grace Attea (Wildy Native Suburbia) is interested in joining the group, and will come to the June meeting. Our two guests at this meeting are also interested in the group.
    - Kim will look into how many people are actually allowed on the commission

**BUDGET**

● Balance $ 278.13

- New budget of $2500  kicks in on 6/1/26
    - Earth Day Movie could could be $500
    - Dare to Repair will be $500
    - Map for Bird Sanctuary Kiosk cost?

**EARTH DAY MOVIE**

- 150-200 community members came to the movie, tabling was a great success!
- Modern Recycling was a great table to have there, and did a great job communicating with the public about recycling

**RECYCLING**

- Update recycling specifics In Village code and update the old recycling flyer on village website
    - Flyer is still only updated in one place, but not in the second location on the Village website
    - Recycling guidelines are not consistent throughout Village documentation

- Recycling bins in municipal buildings - Climate Smart subcommittee task
    - Holly - meeting with Matt and the Mayor about starting up the Climate Smart subcommittee (See Below: CLIMATE SMART/CLEAN ENERGY)

**BIRD SANCTUARY**

- Middle School Woodworking Club (can maybe help make posts for the center path for the enchanted forest?) - Kat met with the woodworking club advisor but needs to reach out to him again soon.

- Enchanted Forest
    - On VBAC calendar for the first time this year!
    - Light tunnel (larger) - can our group build a tunnel with sticks?

- Tree sculpture pedestal and repair work
    - Adrienne brought it up at the last Imagine:Hamburg meeting which Paul Gaughan was at. Paul has since discussed the issue with DPW, and they have said that they could supply the equipment needed to cut down and move the sculpture (potentially with I:H volunteer help)
    - The Commission needs to decide where the sculpture should be moved to - Andy suggested moving it to the area near the boot brush station, and the group agreed that

would likely be a good spot. But the specific spot needs to be confirmed ASAP so details of the project can be worked out.
    - Preserving the sculpture is important as it was a $2000 investment, and is a fun tourist draw to the Bird Sanctuary.

- Entrance - chain/bollard to replace rock? Kim will order a "No Motorized Vehicles Beyond this Point" sign from Amazon and attach it to the metal park post at the entrance to the park

- Entrance path washed out - Gerry sent photos to Jason, and Andy has been moving some rocks back on the path, and planted some shrubs between the path and the neighbors lawn

- April 24th - ECOS Cooperative kicked off their initial Restoration Management Plan project at the Sanctuary

- WNY Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Letter of Intent submitted in April for funding to do invasive species removal.

**CLIMATE SMART/ CLEAN ENERGY**

- Silver Level investigation report - Gerry has been in touch with UBRI and is wondering if it is worth the commitment and money to go for silver. Perhaps the purpose of the group is simply to maintain Bronze level and implement environmental/climate smart projects in the village

**TREES**

- An educated resident emailed the Mayor about being unhappy that Village tax dollars were being used to plant invasive tree species (he specifically mentioned the Bradford Pear trees planted in front of DPW in 2025). Kim was asked to update the approved planting tree list for the Village in response to the email, which she has been working on. Once complete, she will share it with the Commission and then bring it to the Village Board for approval.

- Kim is planning on engaging ReTree this month (Meeting scheduled for May 20th) about working together to update the Street tree inventory and subsequently update the Village Tree Management Plan. Once these documents are updated, the Village can apply for street tree funding.

- New plantings on East Main Street were completed the last week of April; 23 trees were planted! 32 trees will be going up on Oakhill the first and second weeks of May. The Oakhill trees will be watered by the Parks and Rec department.

**ERIE COUNTY EMC**

- No updates

**NEXT MTG DATE:** Tuesday, **06/02/26**, 6:30pm, Village Hall

Respectfully Submitted,
Kimberly Bourke