

# Conservation Advisory Council | City of Newburgh, New York

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## Council Members:

Richard Harper, Chairman

Kippy Boyle

Deborah Dresser

Gail Fulton

Karen McCarthy

Phil Prinzivalli

Chuck Thomas



## Conservation Advisory Council

### Minutes of Meeting

January 7, 2016 – 6:30pm

#### 1. Roll Call

**Present:** Kippy Boyle, Gail Fulton, Phil Prinzivalli, Karen McCarthy  
Chuck Thomas, Eliana Diaz (Secretary)

**Excused:** Richard Harper, Deborah Dresser

**Guest:** Marcel Barrick, Manager Downing Park Greenhouse Project  
Amador Laput, Project Manager, Fellenzer Engineering  
Ryan Fellenzer, Engineer, Fellenzer Engineering

#### 2. Approval of minutes from January 7, 2016

Motion by Karen McCarthy to approve minutes from January 7<sup>th</sup>

Motion Seconded: Kippy Boyle

The motion unanimously passed

Motion by Chuck Thomas to move up item number five on the agenda to address the 198 South Robinson Special Use Permit application.

Motion Seconded: Kippy Boyle

Motion passed: 4-0

#### 3. New Business

##### a. 198 South Robinson Avenue, Special Use Permit

Amador Laput, Project Manager and Ryan Fellenzer, Engineer at Fellenzer Engineering appeared. Mr. Laput stated that the property 198 South Robinson Ave. is located at 100 feet of the WPO District. This property is currently on a compacted gravel lot now, it's considered impervious by the DEC. New utilities will be put in, there is an easement to bring water and sewer into the buildings. It was stated that storm water issues on the site will be addressed. A discussion was held regarding the direction of runoff from the site. Mr. Laput stated that the runoff flows south down the bank into the Quassaick Creek. Because the property is within the WPO District the CAC recommends that a Coastal Consistency Review Form be completed by the applicant to determine if it is or if it is not consistent with the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan. It was stated that Quassaick Creek has been defined as another waterfront for the City of Newburgh and it is an

economic development tool. It has great potential for recreation and economic development. Therefore it has to be recognized that any impact on the Quassaick Creek affects the Hudson River. Because the gravel lot is defined as an impervious surface by the DEC the CAC is not going to recommend that any impermeable pavement be put in place. The focus is how to control the runoff into the Quassaick Creek. Mr. Laput stated that roof drains will be addressed so that as runoff will be dispersed before it gets to the top of the bank. From the outlet of the roof drain a stone triangle can allow the runoff to spread out and disperse before it reaches the top of the bank. It was stated that the impervious pavement would be dug about six (6) to twelve (12) inches in order to have the groundwater go into the ground instead of having it runoff eroding the bank. Mr. Laput stated that a calculation will be done taking the slope of the roof and see what velocity the runoff comes down at, if the velocity can be brought to five (5) feet per second then grasses will probably be the best option to be put in place instead of stones. Calculations will be done and if the velocity of the drain discharge speed is above five (5) feet per second then the stones will be pursued as the option to control the runoff. There was a discussion held regarding what type of protection is offered for the creek in case any type of oil comes into the impermeable surface and erodes into the creek. It was stated that notes will be added in case any spills occur in the parking lot. It was stated that oil is collected and contracted services comes and pumps it out, all waste is barrel controlled and disposed. It was suggested that question 17 on the EAF is to be revised to rephrase the notes regarding dispersion of runoff. It was recommend that the sixteen (16) parking spaces be exempted from this applicant and project, but not have this provision grandfathered for a different owner and a different proposal. It was stated that the spaces could be reserved for parking but to not pave or paint them since asphalt would be used to pave on top of the already impermeable pavement in order to allow vegetation and grass to grow.

**4. Budget Report/Invoices:**

Purchase orders are ready for the spring. The invoices for the Biodiversity Report are being processed and there is about \$150 left on the CAC account.

**5. Old Business:**

**a) Newburgh Waterfront Updates:**

**i. Newburgh Landing**

No requests were sent out this for updates due to the holiday season.

**ii. South Street Park**

Nothing new to report on this topic

**iii. Fishing Pier**

There is nothing new to report on this topic

**b) Tree Inventory Grant Closeout**

Kippy is working with Katie Mack on the grant. Katie has contacted the Grants Coordinator at the DEC and asked for forms, she will also be working with Ellen Fillo, the Grants Coordinator for the City when this project was started. The grant is for \$25,000, there is question whether or not to include in the narrative kippy is drafting, that more than \$25,000 has been spent in the past as this might have a positive or negative impact in obtaining the grant. Katie and Kippy are aiming to have everything finalized by the end of January.

**6. Subcommittee Reports**

**a) LWRP Update**

There are no updates on this topic.

**b) Parks**

Offer of replanting the tree on Tyrone Krabb Park was appreciated, but nothing has been implemented.

**c) Open Space/NRI**

Chuck is collecting information, and will continue to work on this topic.

**d) Watershed**

There are no updates on this topic.

**e) Air Quality**

The City has a permanent vote on the Orange County Transportation Committee and Kippy has previously sent an email to the City engineering stating that the CAC has commented on the issues regarding Air Quality. Kippy will now draft a formal letter to be presented to the Transportation Committee regarding Air Quality. Pedestrian Safety on Route 32 near Independent Living and by the Greater Newburgh Family Health Center was also addressed at the OC Transportation Committee meeting. It was stated that Newburgh needs to advocate for public safety on a State roads and the State needs to be responsible for such safety.

**f) Urban Forestry**

- **Site Visits**

- 145 Renwick Street was visited by Kippy Boyle, Phil Prinzivalli and Fred Fedder. A follow up will be sent to those involved stating that there is nothing wrong with the tree in front of the property at 145 Renwick Street. There is no reason as to why a service berry tree be removed and be replaced by a hibiscus tree which is essentially bushes.

- 379 Grand Street, it was stated that the value of the tree on this area is more than whatever the cost of removing sections of sidewalk or fixing the sidewalk might be.
- 304 Grand Street, the tree on this location is recommended to be removed.
- The piece of land located between Colden and the back of Montgomery Street was not documented as part of the tree inventory because at the time it was not listed as City property. It was stated that Council Woman Mejia would like to start a protocol for a public/private partnership so that property owners in the area can keep the area thinned out and clean so they can keep the view. An arborist hired by the area residents marked the trees that could be removed, the CAC went over to approve the trees and they were removed.
- 46 East Parmenter, there was a complaint that the tree branches on this location were falling on cars. However the only tree found on that street was one located between Federal Street where it meets East Parmenter. Fred Fedder stated that the tree poses no imminent danger.

**7. Ongoing Environmental Concerns**

**a. Consolidated Iron Site**

A draft proposal from the people interested in creating a bee sanctuary at the site has been received by Marcel Barrick. The proposal did not make mention of funding, however after edits to the proposal are made the CAC will be addressed for further comments so that it can be presented in front of the City Council.

**8. Calendar of Upcoming Events**

On January 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM there will be a Webinar on Urban Tree Canopy Heat Island. On January 15<sup>th</sup> there is a Releaf meeting DEC New Paltz and on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM there will be a SEQRA

training session in City Hall, Council Chambers.

**9. September, October, November, December 2015 Volunteer Hours**

Any volunteer hours must be reported to Kippy.

**General Discussion**

There was a discussion regarding the property between 9W and Ann Street where construction is in progress. The status of the application regarding said property was questioned; perhaps it can be reopened so that it can undergo CAC review. It was stated that efforts are ongoing trying to get water to garden sites. A meeting is trying to be set up with the water department. There was a discussion regarding the tree drop-off this year, it was stated that it could have gone better. Christmas tree recycling is getting smaller each year; some solutions were mentioned such as possibly changing the drop-off location.

Motion to Adjourn: **Karen McCarthy**

Motion Seconded: **Gail Fulton**

Vote: **Unanimously Approved**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30p.m.

**Project Reviews by CAC in 2016**

198 South Robinson Ave. Special Use Permit comments to PB	

**Project Reviews by CAC in 2015**

First St. Fishing Pier; Comments to Engineering 6/8/15	Habitat Newburgh- Ann St. at Johnston, four units; CAC ltr 9/04/15
Safe Harbors Park- Broadway at Liberty; comments to PB 8/12/15	Habitat Newburgh – 123 Washington Street – street trees
T/Newburgh Matrix Development in City Watershed- 17K/I-87; CAC Ltr 8/20/15	

**Project Reviews by CAC in 2014**

Shell Gas Station (405 Bway)	Independent living
Rt 300- Crystal Run	Re-Zoning/ LWRP Update
Water Tower Replacement	Newburgh Landing/ South St./ Fishing Pier
Torches	Tyrone Crabb Park Planting List
#5 Scobie Drive	North Montgomery St.