

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

March 3, 2016 – 6:30pm

1. Roll Call

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

Excused: Deborah Dresser

Guest: Jason Morris, City Engineer

Anthony Eagan, Engineer, Barton & Loguidice, P.C.

Marcel Barrick, Manager Downing Park Greenhouse Project

George Profus, DEC Region 3, New Paltz

2. Approval of minutes from February 4, 2016

Richard Harper pointed out certain changes and corrections that needed to be made to the minutes, he will provide such corrections and changes via email so the minutes can be updated.

Motion by Kippy Boyle to approve minutes from February 4th

Motion Seconded: Chuck Thomas

The motion unanimously passed

3. Budget Report/Invoices:

Budget report will be postponed until Deborah returns for the following meeting or it will be sent to the members of the board via email.

4. Presentation:

West Trunkline Sewer Progress Update

Anthony Eagan gave a presentation on the West Trunkline Sewer. The importance of the West Trunkline Sewer was linked to a 6,000 acre contributory drainage area. On July 16, 2012 the first collapse of the sewer main occurred and on October 2012 the second collapse of the sewer main occurred. It was stated that the first break on July 2012 was due to bank erosion around the pipe causing the pipe to open and not close correctly causing it to collapse on itself. Simply repairing the West Trunkline Sewer is not going to mitigate the risk. It was stated that proactive protection is less expensive than reactive repair. Therefore removal partial reaching of the dam and a realignment of the stream which will have

minimum impact and improve the channel wise flow, it will slow the erosion and make the stream more stable. It was asked if the possible implementation of the Pilgrim Pipeline would in any way impact the proactive protection that is being proposed. At the moment there was no concrete answer that could be given regarding the Pilgrim Pipeline issue. It was stated that even though there will be tree clearings, there is no current knowledge of what will be replacing what will be taken out, that is a conversation which is pending with the DEC. A future contemplation is to have Underneath the Mill Street Bridge or the 9W Bridge a parking lot which would be a point of access to the trails. In summary the City has issued Negative Declaration, SHPO has given its approval, a meeting with DEC is upcoming, DOT has been reached out regarding the bridges, the Dept. of Health and CSX have filed the required permits for the design in order to complete the project by 2018.

5. Site Plan Reviews:

2 Nicoll Street will not be reviewed during this meeting.

a. 39A-B Johnston Street- Rural Ulster Preservation Company (RUPCO)

The Site Plans submitted by RUPCO to the Planning Board were reviewed by the members of the CAC. It was stated that the materials utilized for the parking lot are of particular interest to the CAC. Richard stated that he had some questions regarding the EAF which he would address in the comment letter that is to be drafted. The drainage in the site was addressed, it was pointed out that a swale is directing water into a playfield shown in the Site Plans. However, there were no explanations as far as what would be done with the water once it reached the playfield. It was mentioned that there were no details specifying what the purpose the playfield would serve. It was stated that native non-invasive plants are always recommended and a memo will be drafted which will address questions and comments from the CAC.

6. CAC Position/ Action regarding latest DPW Tree Trimming – report by George Profus

Proper tree trimming procedures were discussed. The parameters used for trimming or cutting trees were unknown and therefore a complete assessment for each individual trees could not be given. It was stated that the tree inventory should be consulting to determine the state of the trees being trimmed. In addition it was also recommended to determine the status of the trees and depending on that the limb could be cut, however a limb which is about 50% of the size of the actual tree should not. It was stated that a meeting with the City tree trimmer and Mr. George Garrison needed to be established and the tree trimmer needed to be trained on how to use the tree inventory. Kippy will try to contact Peter McFarland from Central Hudson and ask if he could do a small presentation for the CAC regarding best practices for cutting trees when there is the interference of wires and utilities. Regarding the Tree Inventory Closeout, George Profus would like a copy once it is finalized and the five year management plan will be forwarded to him as well.

7. Coastal Assessment Form Review:198 South Robinson Ave. Special Use Permit

It was stated that the CAF for 198 South Robinson was accurate.

8. Old Business

a) Newburgh Waterfront Updates:

i. Newburgh Landing

There are no updates on this topic.

ii. South Street Park

Deborah Keeper has agreed to be the leader for the river sweep which will be held the first

week of May.

iii. Fishing Pier

The condition has not improved. Kippy will compose an email requesting receptacles near the where the River Rose used to dock.

b) Tree Inventory Grant Closeout

There are no updates on this topic

c) Revise By-Laws to include more members

A discussion was held in which it was mentioned that the bylaws needed to be revised once this is done Marcel could perhaps be part of a subcommittee within the CAC.

d) Sidewalk and Street Tree Pit Standards and Specifications

GPI has obtained the contract to do the work on the "Safe Harbors Park" the design for the project is to be finished by the end of March. The CAC feels that when the design is finished they should be included to make comments.

9. New Business

a) Newburgh Preservation Association Presentation, March 20, 2016

Richard has been asked to make a short presentation, he has asked Lawrence to create some slides to accompany his presentation. Chad will be making a presentation on native plants and landscaping. Marcel will make a presentation about urban farming and the green house, Joe from Devitts will make some hands on garden planting.

b) Urban Farming Fair, April 30, 2016

The CAC will have a table at the fair. Details as to what will be set up for the table are still pending.

c) CAC Position on City Council issuing a letter of concern regarding the Pilgrim Pipeline

The CAC has previously sent a letter in regards to the pipeline, opposing the Thruway Authority being Co-lead agency. The CAC should recommend the City to do the same and issue a letter of concern opposing the intent of the Thruway Authority to be Co-lead agency for the Pilgrim Pipeline.

d) TD Bank Grant Application

Kippy and Deborah will have a conference call with the Arbor Day Foundation since TD Bank and the Arbor Day Foundation are planning on doing the announcement of the awards within the next couple of weeks. Kippy and Phil continued their research on the water vehicle and received the approval from the Arbor Day Foundation and the Comptroller's office to purchase the 2015 Easy Go electric vehicle which has the capacity to hold and transport an 80-100 gallon water tank.

10. Subcommittee Reports

a) LWRP Update

The deliverables needed for the \$35,000 requested are pending, chuck has requested them but has not received any information yet. Richard will inquire further regarding the deliverables.

b) Parks

There are no updates on this topic.

c) Open Space/NRI

Laura has been in touch with Laurence, they are working on the NRI

d) Watershed

There are many threats to our water sources and more interest needs to be taken.

e) Air Quality

There are no updates on this topic.

f) Urban Forestry

• Arbor Day Plans

The day is pending, and so is the scope of the work that is to be done on that day. There are different areas that could be have trees planted.

11. Ongoing Environmental Concerns

a. Consolidated Iron Site

Kippy and Richard met with Ali, Deirdre and several people from the Scenic Hudson at the Consolidated Iron Site on February 8th. Kippy sent an email asking what would be needed to have the site open on a Saturday for the public. Kippy will send a follow up email.

b. Ferry docking site after June lease expiration

An extension was granted

c. Broadway Demonstration Project

The project is in the works, Site Plan is pending.

d. Quassaick Creek

No updates on this topic

12. Calendar of Upcoming Events

- March 20, 2016, 3-5PM, Heritage Center – Newburgh Preservation Assn. Workshop
- April 2016, Arbor Day Tree Planting
- April 30, 2016, 12 – 5 PM, 54 Liberty St., free admission - Urban Farming Fair

13. 2015/2016 Volunteer Hours

Any volunteer hours must be reported to Kippy.

Motion to Adjourn: **Chuck Thomas**

Motion Seconded: **Kippy Boyle**

Vote: **Unanimously Approved**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00p.m.

Project Reviews by CAC in 2016

198 South Robinson Ave. Special Use Permit comments to PB	
39A-B Johnston Street- Site Plan Rural Ulster Preservation Company (RUPCO)	

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.