

Conservation Advisory Council | City of Newburgh, New York

The Heritage Center, 123 Grand St., Newburgh, NY 12550

Phone: (845) 569-7383 e-mail: conservation@cityofnewburgh-ny.gov

Council Members:

Chuck Thomas, Chair

Ronald Zorrilla, Incoming Chairperson

Andrew Murphy, Treasurer

Betty Bastidas

Gail Fulton

Marianne Marichal

Mark Sanchez-Potter



Conservation Advisory Council

Minutes of Meeting

February 6, 2023

6:30 p.m. – Heritage Center (123 Grand Street)

- **Roll Call**

Present: Chuck Thomas, Chairperson, Betty Bastidas,
Gail Fulton, Marianne Marichal, Andrew Murphy,
Mark Sanchez-Potter, Ronald Zorrilla

Also Present: Tallie Carter, Assistant Corporation Counsel
J.K. Gentile, Secretary

Guests: Jonathan Midler, City Planner
Duane Martinez and Gita Nandan

Meeting called to order 6:35 p.m.

Presentation -Quassiack Creek Greenway Project -Scenic Hudson

Duane Martinez and Gita Nandan gave an overview of the project through a slideshow and discussion.

-Public Comment on Agenda Items

None

Administration

Ronald Zorrilla made a motion to approve the December 5, 2022 meeting minutes, subject to the discussed changes.

Gail Fulton seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

- **Appointments/Re-Elections**
The Assistant Corporation Counsel said the new CAC appointments will be included in the 2022 Annual Report. She said Ronald Zorrilla was internally elected to be Chairperson and the next step is a presentation to City Council for approval.
- **CAC 2022 Annual Report**
The Chairperson submitted a draft for the committee to review. He asked the committee to submit input by February 13, 2023. This report will be up for vote at the March 6, 2023 CAC meeting.
- **CAC 2023 Action Plan and Budget Schedule**
The committee discussed the necessity and preparation of a narrative that will accompany the budget schedule before moving forward on any new expenditures.
- **Environmental Justice Fellows 2023 Plan & Budget**
Plan & budget is forthcoming.
- **Monthly Financial Report by Treasurer Andrew Murphy**
Mr. Murphy discussed the invoices submitted for the payment.
- **Volunteer Hours -tracking and reporting**
The Chairperson asked the committee to submit all their hours and Mr. Zorrilla explained the established Google tracking spreadsheet to the new CAC members.
- **“Thank you for your interest in CAC” draft letter**
The Assistant Corporation Counsel explained that upon approval, it will be included with the correspondence from the City going forward.
- **Tree Keeper software payment needs to be made prior to the beginning of the contract year.**

Old Business

- **DEC Urban & Community Grant -Broadway Pits**
The Chairperson said he will present the final report at the City Council work session February 9, 2023 at 6:30p.m. Ms. Marichal to accompany the Chairperson.
- **Recycle your Christmas Tree event January 7, 2023 at the Activity Center.**

The committee discussed the remaining details from the event.

- Tree City USA Arbor Day Event
The committee discussed the paperwork necessary to submit.

New Business

- RFP for 2023 Arborist
The Assistant Corporation Counsel is scheduled to meet with the Superintendent of Public Works to confirm the budget and finalize the RFP.
- DEC Natural Resource Inventory Grant -RFP & Utilization Plan -status
The City Planner said they have a working draft that has been submitted to legal. He said input from Orange County is pending.

Projects

On-going Updates

- Newburgh Climate Ready sub-committee
Betty Bastidas said the next sub-committee meeting is February 16, 2023. Mr. Zorrilla said Kingston will be presenting their model as reference.
- LWRP Update – Locally Adopted on 7-10-17
The Chairperson said the City is schedule to receive funds to construct a new pier at the waterfront.
- Restoration Advisory Board /Stewart Air National Guard Water Project
The Chairperson said the RAB met last week. He said they receive monthly and quarterly updates on the Route 17 diversion project. Assistant Corporation Counsel asked the Chairperson how often they meet. The Chairperson said quarterly meetings. He said the agenda is sent out a week in advance, noticed in the newspaper and a YouTube recording is available post meeting.
- EPA Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities
No current updates.

Upcoming events:

- DEC UC Grant -Broadway Pits City Council presentation February 9, 2023
- Arbor Day planting Friday April 28, 2023
- River Sweep Saturday May 6, 2023
- Environmental Justice Fellows begin again April 2023

Public Forum

None

Calendar of Upcoming events (webinars, training, community events)

- 02-08-23 Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting
- 02-13-23 City Council Meeting
- 02-14-23 Architectural Review Council Meeting
- 02-21-23 Planning Board Meeting
- 02-27-23 City Council Meeting
- 02-28-23 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

Ronald Zorrilla made Motion to Adjourn

Mark Sanchez-Potter seconded

The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting concluded 9:04 p.m.