



TOWN OF POUGHKEEPSIE

Conservation Advisory Commission

Monday, August 22, 2022, at 7:00 PM
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES (held via Zoom link)

Present: CAC Members: Chair Pam Kingsley, Susan Karnes Hecht, Margaret Slomin, Lorraine Mirabella. Online meeting facilitator: Michael Welti, Town of Poughkeepsie Director of Municipal Development.

Meeting called to order: 7:04 p.m.

Minutes from 6/27/2022 approved.

Agenda:

1. Discussion of our tabling at Arlington St. Fair with the CSTF. It is on 9/17 from 12:00-6:00 and all CAC members are available for shifts. Susan will do the scheduling. She obtained banners with our respective logos to attach to the tables. There will be Pollinator Pathways brochures, and possible seed packets to give away. CSTF will have some resources. Friendly Ford may provide an EV by the table for promotional purposes.
2. Discussion of the AquaBlitz along the Fallkill Creek for which Vassar Barns is doing a "train the trainer" event on 9/14 from 11-1. The purpose of the AquaBlitz is to inventory flora and fauna using the iNaturalist app. It is being done at Peach Hill Park in conjunction with Ciderfest on 10/1. We should pick a date prior to that so there is still foliage. Access to the Fall Kill in Town of Poughkeepsie is difficult but we identified 2 sites, behind St. Peter's Cemetery off Inness Avenue and behind the north parking lot to the north of the DCC campus on Creek Rd. We need to see if home-schoolers and Scouts would like to participate, and get permission from the sites to do this on their property. Margaret will reach out to St. Peter's and Susan to Mark Condon at DCC for information.
3. Update on NRI/OSP: Mike and the team had a conference call with MJ and the draft will be ready by the end of August. MJ staff will attend our 9/19 meeting in person and walk us through the plan. We will submit comments by 9/30. It will be ready for presentation to the Town Board by Oct or Nov.
4. Update on native plantings in Town parks: Ward 1 in New Hamburg is pending. Ward 2 at Red Oaks Mill Park is done. In Ward 3 the park has been changed to Rochdale Rd Park due to a concern about cars parking on the grass at Overocker Rd Park. Ward 4 at Peach Hill is done. Ward 5 at Crown Heights Park was done by the Scouts. Ward 6 at Hagantown Park is done.

5. Update on Climate Smart: CSTF is still working on how to spend the grant money. One grant is set up for small business owners. The other, a \$15,000 grant, has 3 possibilities. Plan A is to put a very small solar array on a Town building. Susan and Ann Shershin met with a SunCommon rep who will work up a possible plan. The NYSEDA rebate covers up to 10,000 megawatts. They identified a Water Dept. building at the corner of Cedar and Spackenkill as a possible site. Ann is checking the electrical usage there. Plan B is to put the grant toward EVs. Plan C is to buy battery-operated equipment for the Highway Dept.
6. Pam inquired as to the status of the grant for a flood study of the New Hamburg waterfront. Mike said he has no update but he will follow up.

Meeting adjourned: 7:49 p.m.

Next meeting: Monday, 9/19/2022, at 7:00 in Town Hall