



**Town of Poughkeepsie
Conservation Advisory Commission (CAC)**

**Monday December 30, 2019 at 5:30 PM
Main Meeting Room, Town Hall**

Present: CAC Members Pam Kingsley, Kerstin Cruger, Susan Karnes Hecht, Lorraine Mirabella and Margaret Slomin

Guest: Mike Welti, Town of Poughkeepsie Director of Municipal Development

- Minutes from 11.25.19 meeting were approved
- Susan Karnes Hecht, CAC member and Chair of the Climate Smart Task Force updated the group (<http://www.townofpoughkeepsie.com/cstf/index.html>):
 - Dutchess County was awarded a Climate Action Planning Institute (CAPI) grant for \$99,548 that the Town will be involved in along with eight other municipalities. The Town will participate in a collaborative working group to complete individual government operations greenhouse gas inventories and climate action plans that will outline emissions reduction targets, strategies, and projects.
 - Waiting for confirmation of date for Planning Tool to be presented to the Town Board. The Planning Tool helped the task force review existing Town policy, procedures and codes.
 - The task force is finishing up assessment of the program and will be moving into prioritizing.
 - There will be a Community Choice Aggregation presentation at next Climate Smart Meeting.
 - **Action:** No Action Required
- The group welcomed the newest member of the board, Lorraine Mirabella.
 - **Action:** Kerstin will contact Town offices to update the website.
- Michael Welti, Director of Municipal Development gave an update regarding the Natural Resources Inventory:
 - The grant was awarded from DEC for \$40,000 with a cash match of 30% from the Town bringing the total to \$52,000. Mike estimates approximately six months before a contract between the Town and State will be complete. Once the contract is in place an RFP for needed services will be the next step.

- CAC would be the lead entity on the project. Mike will talk with the Town Board regarding who else should be included on the committee for this project.
- Comprehensive plan and NRI intersection - preservation. Focus on preservation what and how. Establishing priorities. Using consultant to garner commitment from the community.
- Mike suggested that the CAC research areas of the NRI where information is not readily available.
 - **Action:** Pam will contact John Pinna, Town of Poughkeepsie Historian to ask about available resources. Mike Welti will identify some research areas for the group to focus on.

- Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club (<https://watermanbirdclub.org>) would like to arrange a presentation for the CAC and they are interested in potentially hosting a public program sponsored by the CAC.
 - **Action:** Margaret will work with the Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club to organize a presentation, possibly at the next monthly meeting.

- **Other Business:** The group voted to change the monthly meeting time to 7:00pm.
 - **Action:** Pam will contact the Town offices requesting approval for the change. Upon approval Kerstin will contact Town offices to update the website.

Next meeting: Monday, January 27th at 7:00pm (pending approval)

FINAL VERSION OF 12/30 MINUTES | APPROVED AT THE 1/27 MEETING