

Draft

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting
March 11, 2015

Members present: Chairwoman Laurie Husted, Susan Ellis, Sarah Imboden, Jen Cavanaugh, Jody Jacobs, Denis Collet (7:14 P.M.), Ross Gould (7:35 P.M.)

Absent: Anne Rubin, Mike Zelie

Guest: Councilwoman Brenda Cagle

CALL TO ORDER / QUORUM: Chairwoman Laurie Husted called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. A quorum was present.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2015 CAC MEETING: Jen Cavanaugh noted that under the ANNOUNCEMENTS section of page 1, for CAC membership, she did not hear any other CAC at the 2014 Roundtable say that they had full membership in the group that she networked with. The minutes of the February 11 meeting were approved as amended with a motion by Sarah Imboden and seconded by Jen Cavanaugh.

RECORD OF CAC RESOURCE MATERIAL: Laurie Husted asked Secretary Susan Ellis if she could work on a log report of the CAC resource materials and spend less time on the minutes. Susan agreed that she would work to do that, but was not able to do so in March due to business commitments. Sarah Imboden offered to come in and help put it on an I Pad, so that it would be available to all CAC members.

DUTCHESS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (EMC) CAC ROUNDTABLE MEETING: Laurie Husted and Jen Cavanaugh attended the CAC Roundtable on February 25, 2015. They shared the last year's activities of the Red Hook CAC with the other participating CAC's. Jen reported that one group suggestion was providing recycling bins for public places. (Red Hook has already done so for the Recreational Park and for some public events.) Jen added that some CAC's are requiring that applications be submitted in pdf form. Brenda Cagle noted that Red Hook's Planning Board is working towards that provision. Laurie Husted noted that habitat assessment protocol was also discussed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ◆ Laurie Husted announced that on Thursday, March 12 there would be a Hudson Valley Food Initiative Forum.
- ◆ A Mobilizing Regional Climate Action Webinar will be broadcast on Thursday, March 12. Sarah Imboden said that she could sign up and record it so that the CAC can access the information.
- ◆ *Invasive species* : Susan Ellis reported that she had received a memo from Linda Keeling about an article in the Poughkeepsie Journal regarding new State regulations on sale, purchase or transportation of a list of invasive species. Laurie Husted asked Susan to forward the information to all CAC members.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOLARSHIPS:

- ◆ *DEC Summer Environmental Camp* : Jen Cavanaugh reported on the CAC vote for the DEC Camp scholarship award. She notified the winner and said that she is looking for other sponsors, so that the CAC could award another scholarship. Denis Collet suggested that the CAC should revisit criteria for choosing the recipients and perhaps include consideration of which student might get the most benefit from the experience. CAC members thanked Jen for her work on the program.
- ◆ *Ruth Oja Environmental Scholarship* : Jen Cavanaugh has not received any information about applicants.

WASTE SUBCOMMITTEE: Sarah Imboden asked about the hauling contract for the Recycling Center and if the garbage per bag option had been renegotiated. Brenda Cagle replied that single stream recycling had been discussed with Royal Carting, who informed that Town that if the single stream option was chosen, it could not change it back.

Sarah reported that she is editing a page on recycling for the website.

WATER RESOURCES: Denis Collet asked what options the CAC could propose on water rights to protect water resources, noting that designations don't mean anything unless they can be enforced. He spoke of a town in Maine that passed a "rights based" law for water resources to protect the resource for all citizens, while denying citizenship to corporations. It basically put groundwater resources in a common trust. The legislation was drafted by the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund. Anne Rubin has earlier proposed an Aquifer Protection Ordinance for Red Hook, but Denis wants to look at a "rights based" proposal versus a regulatory proposal. Brenda Cagle suggested that he run the question by Town Attorney Chris Chale, and also ask the Intermunicipal Task Force to make it a priority for the 2016 agenda. Sarah Imboden

would like to work on a portion of Anne Rubin's Water Resource Protection proposals and asked Denis if he would draft a question for the Town Attorney.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 7 P.M. at the Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Ellis, Secretary