

Draft

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting
September 13, 2017

Members present: Susan Ellis, Jen Cavanaugh, Mike Zelig, Julia Solomon,
Lori Urbin, Chairwoman Laurie Husted (7:50 P.M.)
Absent: Denis Collet

Guest: Councilwoman Sarah Imboden (8:12 P.M.)

CALL TO ORDER / QUORUM: Chairwoman Laurie Husted had called for a delayed start to the meeting, as she had a Trails Feasibility Study program at Bard College. CAC members met at the Town Hall for the 7:30 P.M. start, but Laurie couldn't get away. CAC members determined that a quorum was present and opened the meeting at 7:45 P.M.

MINUTES OF THE CAC AUGUST 9, 2017 MEETING: The minutes of the August meeting were approved with a motion made by Julia Solomon and seconded by Mike Zelig.

PLANNING REVIEWS REPORT: Mike Zelig gave an update on the current reviews before the Planning Board.

- ◆ *Hannafords' renovations application:* Hannafords' is looking to add a pick-up lane for groceries ordered on line that will be brought out to customers' cars.
- ◆ *Location of the former Rusty's Restaurant (store complex which burned):* Mike reported that at the last Planning Board meeting the Red Hook Land Corporation presented a Preliminary Application for rebuilding a multi-use store complex of similar character. They are looking to build a 10,000 square foot building that will need to comply with current standards.
- ◆ *Extensions :* Mike reported that both the Preserve at Lakes Kill and Hoffman's Residential Development requested an extension.
- ◆ *Barringer House and Master Plan Update :* Mike reported that Bard College is continuing discussions with the Planning Board. The Board had requested more information on certification of the sewage and water expansion for the Barringer House, as well as details of the parking area.
- ◆ *Laurie Husted joined the meeting.* Laurie added that Bard College had an April deadline for April submission the Town, but were not prepared for the amount of

detail that would be needed, such as lot coverage of the new building and Scenic Road requirements.

BICYCLE / PEDESTRIAN COUNTS: Laurie Husted asked about the totals for the volunteers who counted. She will send the final tallies in a report to the County Bicycle / Pedestrian Committee.

Lori Urbin rejoined the meeting.

NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NYSERDA) GRANT ON LOCALIZED INLAND FLOODING: Julia Solomon updated her work on the NYSERDA Inland Flooding Pilot Grant, which is partnering with the Town of Red Hook to focus on identifying and prioritizing changes to Red Hook's flood risk vulnerability. A stakeholder meeting organized by Abt Associates is planned for Friday October 13, 2017 and will require 1/2 day or more. Laurie Husted asked Julia to e-mail CAC members the schedule for the day for comment or addition.

Jen Cavanaugh noted that the Fuss and O'Neill flood resiliency model grant project is a separate project, but is working with Abt Associates and sharing information with them, as there is so much overlap in their projects. Fuss and O'Neill has a deadline to finish by the end of the year.

TOWN MORATORIUM ON WATER AND SOIL EXTRACTION AND TIMBER HARVESTING: Laurie Husted reported that the proposed moratorium had passed the Town Board following the public hearing on August 23, 2017. CAC members discussed the treatment of natural resources as commodities and the need for the Town to have regulations to prevent depletion of necessary resources for outside sale. The other consideration is to determine a just recompense for keeping them in the ground or on the property. CAC members have agreed that the work to address the protection of Town natural resources should be done by a Task Force which includes CAC representation.

Mike Zelig said that the Town needs to update its Natural Resources Inventory. The last compilation of information circa 1990 has parcel by parcel descriptions, but not in a format useful for the moratorium review. Jen Cavanaugh added that there is already grant money to do that

Councilwoman Sarah Imboden joined the meeting.

Laurie Husted asked Sarah Imboden about the grant for a planner. Sarah replied that Paula Schoonmaker and Denis Collet had been working on the application for a

GREENWAY grant, though the Town Board and CAC did not have any review before the Town Board was called for a special meeting on Friday, September 8 to approve the grant submission on that deadline day. The request is for \$10,000 from GREENWAY with a local match of \$10,000 to hire a planner and engineering firm to draft natural resource protection legislation. If the grant is approved, it will start this November and end in August 2018.

HARDSCRABBLE DAY: Laurie Husted noted that on Hardscrabble Day September 16, Energize Red Hook will have a table in KEY Bank parking lot, staffed by Energy Coach Michael Courtney. Laurie felt that it is very important to have community members there to relate to local residents and asked CAC members if they could take time slots. Time slots were set and Laurie also asked Sarah about having the Energize Red Hook banner carried in the parade. It could be possible if there are two people to hold it.

LETTER TO LOCAL BUSINESSES ABOUT WASTE REDUCTION: Lori Urbin reported that she had spoken with Kim Gomez of the Red Hook Chamber of Commerce about distribution. Kim said that she could put the notice in the Chamber's e-mail bulletin. Lori will do some revision and send it with Kim's post.

SOLAR ZONING ISSUES: Laurie Husted reported that CAC members had read the draft proposal and that on Thursday, September 14 there would be a discussion at the Town Board meeting. CAC members have some concerns about the restrictions on location, size and visibility. Sarah suggested that the CAC should put together comments and submit them for the record.

LED STREET LIGHT CONVERSION PROJECT: Jen Cavanaugh reported that she needs to document the GPS position of all the light poles that will be a part of the Mid Hudson Street Light Consortium grant for Town purchase and conversion to LED bulbs. Laurie noted that there is a possibility of funding a student intern to help. Jen said that she will set up a spread sheet and be ready to go when she gets the word and Central Hudson information from Denis Collet, and feels that she can safely be on the roadside.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at 7 P.M. at the Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Ellis, Secretary