

Draft

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting
November 8, 2017

Members present: Chairwoman Laurie Husted, Susan Ellis, Mike Zelic, Lori Urbin, Jen Cavanaugh, Denis Collet, Steve Appenzeller

Absent: Julia Solomon

CALL TO ORDER / QUORUM : Chairwoman Laurie Husted called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. A quorum was present. Laurie noted that Julia Solomon had told her that she could not make the meeting.

NEW MEMBER: Laurie Husted introduced Steve Appenzeller as a new member of the CAC, appointed at the last Town Board meeting. Steve said that he and his family have lived in Red Hook for 15 years. Among other activities, he was founder of the Red Hook Education Foundation and continues as a member. He has worked on accessibility issues and is interested in involving students in environmental issues with a goal of leading them towards careers in environmental fields.

MINUTES OF THE CAC MEETING ON OCTOBER 11, 2017: Laurie asked if CAC members had any comments on the minutes from the October 11, 2017 meeting. CAC members asked to review a copy, which was passed around for their comment. Secretary Susan Ellis said that if the CAC wished to have the amendments circulated and uploaded to the website in a timely manner, that she would revise and submit them by e-mail to the CAC members. Members would need to reply whether they agreed or not to the corrections so that the Secretary could circulate them as amended and approved, instead of draft.

GREEN BIZ: Lori Urbin updated activities in her work to reach out to local businesses with information about reduction of waste and ending use of polystyrene containers, a means to facilitate a decrease in their carbon footprint. It takes time to get responses, but Lori noted that the recently announced ban on use of polystyrene (“styrofoam”) take-out containers may lead some of the small local businesses to seek advice. The legislation for New York and Dutchess County initially affects large corporations and franchises, but will gradually affect small businesses. Susan Ellis suggested that Stewarts, Extra Mart and Dunkin' Donuts would qualify as franchises.

Susan Ellis added that each one had a different mixture of recyclable and non-recyclable items. Lori Urbin said that she would check them out.

ENERGY SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:

LED street lighting project with Mid Hudson Street Light Consortium : Jen Cavanaugh reported that her intern Elizabeth could not continue, so she has only had up to 3 hours a week in the field for the survey documentation of the streetlights (~300 need to be done). The Survey only drives the design of the street light grid, not the contract. Intern TJ will input all of the data after Jen has completed the field work. There are common documents for terms of the contracts with street light installers once the Town has agreed with a contractor proposal. Maintenance will be a part of the contract.

Energize Red Hook update : Laurie Husted contacted Tom Bregman from Energize NY on a conference call to inform the CAC about the Enhanced Star connection with Assisted Home Performance to reduce energy use.

Solar Zoning : Denis Collet reported on the status of the proposed Solar Zoning Law that will be addressed at the Town Board meeting on November 14, 2017. He asked for CAC attendance.

Town Hall Upgrade of Energy Use Reduction Project : Denis Collet reported that the Town has installed a generator to provide protection from loss of power. The Energy Subcommittee is working on a schedule for the upgrades. Choice of insulation of buildings will determine whether ground source or air source heat pumps will provide more energy savings. Denis has some data for the Town Hall and Highway Garage.

PLANNING BOARD REVIEWS : Mike Zelig reported on recent Planning Board actions. Laurie Husted also noted that she had attended the last Planning Board meeting.

Solar Ground Mount Array in Barrytown : The proposed application for a Certificate of Appropriateness was approved based on a revised description of the landscaping design.

The Preserve at Lakes Kill : The project was granted a six month extension.

Budds Corners Road application for special permit for 5 accessory uses where three are permitted : At the advise of Planning Consultant Michele Greig, the Board asked for photometric detail of the uses.

Norton Road subdivision proposal for 8 lots with a common driveway : The Planning Board discussed issued with the crossing of wetlands and the common drive.

Councilwoman Sarah Imboden joined the meeting.

DEC SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS: Jen Cavanaugh reported that it is close to time for advertising for applicants to the program for 2018. She has asked the funding donors if they would sponsor an applicant for 2018. The Masons said yes; the VFW has to vote at their December meeting and are likely to agree.

CONTINUATION OF DISCUSSION OF THE TIMELINE AND ITEMS TO BE RESOLVED FOR THE SOLAR ZONING LAW: Laurie Husted asked Sarah Imboden if a solar array project has a permit approved for installation, will it be allowed if the installation cannot be completed by the time that the Solar Zoning Law is in place.

Susan Ellis said that she sees frustration with the timeline for the process and a need for compromise in the restrictions for the regulations in the TND and Historic Overlay District. There was more discussion of the process and timeline to be addressed at the Town Board November 14 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 7 P.M. at the Town Hall will be **cancelled** so that CAC members can take part in the year end review and report of the Saw Kill Watershed Community (SKWC) at the Elmendorph Inn. The SKWC is a cooperative project with CAC members, community members and Bard College educators and students.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Ellis, Secretary