

**DRAFT**  
**TOWN OF RED HOOK**  
**CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting  
June 14, 2006

Members present: Chairwoman Brenda Cagle, Ruth Oja, Susan Ellis, Denise Barton. Zoie Riel

Guest: Ginger Hagan

Chairwoman Brenda Cagle called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. Ginger Hagan noted that she did not attend as a representative of the Dutchess Land Conservancy and corrected the spelling of her last name. The minutes of the May meeting were approved as amended with a motion made by Ruth Oja and seconded by Brenda Cagle.

**SCENIC ROADS:** Chairwoman Brenda Cagle presented a map of existing and proposed scenic roads produced by Mary Ann Johnson. CAC members agreed that the portion of Annandale Road/ River Road to Route 9G, as well as Dock and Station Road need to be included. CAC members decided that Stone Church Road sections and Metzgar Road should not be included. The text describing scenic roads written by Mary Ann Johnson has been given to the Planning Board.

**CAC BULLETIN BOARD:** The CAC bulletin board is ready to be hung and Chairwoman Brenda Cagle will work out the placement with Town Clerk Sue McCann. CAC members discussed the types of brochures and information that might be displayed. Brenda asked if CAC members could volunteer to maintain the bulletin board. Denise Barton and Zoie Riel volunteered to help.

**TREE PLANTING:** Chairwoman Brenda Cagle reported that Sean of Tivoli Farm Market is ready to plant 3 serviceberry trees on the south side of the Town Hall. The cost will be \$420 (a 15% discount plus free planting). Denise Barton offered 4 serviceberry trees that she needs removed from her property. Susan Ellis suggested that Tivoli Farm Market be asked what the fee might be for including transplanting Denise's trees and that perhaps they could be planted at the Recycling Center. CAC members discussed what maintenance might be needed.

**OUTDOOR WOOD BURNING FURNACES:** Chairwoman Brenda Cagle and Denise Barton attended the public hearing on the moratorium and proposed ban on outdoor wood burning furnaces. The Town is proposing to ban the furnaces, only allowing the 3 currently in use, with no additions. The CAC discussed pros and cons of the furnaces.

Denise Barton noted that the stack height is usually not as high as buildings, which gives much greater potential for pollution than wood burning stoves, though wood burning stoves also are a pollution issue. Owners frequently burn inappropriate materials. She added that cost savings may be reduced if wood is purchased. The State proposed regulations in April, and the State Attorney General is questioning the advertised efficiency.

The CAC agreed with the proposed ban. Zoie Riel noted that the recommendation from the CAC should include what energy sources should be encouraged; that is why the CAC sponsored the Energy Conservation Conference in 2005. Susan Ellis suggested that future support of energy saving systems needs to include means of helping homeowners retrofit old systems, as well as encouraging energy efficient building.

**TIMBER HARVESTING REGULATIONS:** Discussion of Planning Consultant Michele Greigs' timber harvesting regulation information was tabled for further review.

**INTERMUNICIPAL TASK FORCE MEETING:** Chairwoman Brenda Cagle, Denise Barton, Susan Ellis, Rich Schiafo and Mary Ann Johnson attended the Friday, June 9 meeting of the Intermunicipal Task Force with CTMale Associates. CTMale was hired by the Town and Village of Red Hook for \$8,000 each to develop a comprehensive sewage treatment plan. A main concern of the CAC members attending was that CTMale consider all up-to-date technology and provide alternatives in their report, and whether or not they may be applicable to Red Hook. CAC members felt that the presentation was rather vague.

Rich Schiafo noted that he recommends a decentralized approach. Simon Gruber of Orange County has recommended the same firms as Rich, and would be willing to do a workshop with the Town.

Planning Consultant Michele Greig has asked the CAC for comment by the next Intermunicipal Council meeting on June 23, 2006. The CAC would recommend that the planners not let infrastructure determine what they choose, but that the planning be an integrated, holistic approach. The CAC recommends that a workshop be held and alternatives be pursued.

**SUBDIVISION MORATORIUM:** Chairwoman Brenda Cagle asked the CAC to consider whether or not stricter regulations for aquifer protection should be included in zoning recommendations. The CAC will look at the current code standards and discuss the issue at the next meeting.

**PLANNING BOARD:** On Monday, June 19, the Planning Board will be discussing Anderson Commons. The CAC would like to be given notice of subdivision proposals that will need environmental comment.

**CONSERVATION EASEMENT TAX ABATEMENT:** The CAC has an application for an easement to review. The CAC needs a map before it can do the review.

**RECYCLING:** Susan Ellis noted that the newspaper roll-off had not been emptied, so all paper was going into the bin provided by the Resource Recovery Agency, which she has understood was not acceptable. She also saw a client who brought motor oil bottles, which she also understood to be unacceptable. Zoie Riel noted that what is acceptable does change based on who receives the recyclables. There is a need to clearly notify clients of what is acceptable. CAC members asked if the CAC could have a regular report from site manager T J Hackett.

Zoie Riel reported that the Household Hazardous Waste Day has 120 customers. Ruth Oja reported that it actually tied up some recycling activities. Zoie is looking for more ways to promote it, perhaps a contest for who gets rid of the most hazardous waste. Susan Ellis suggested that if it could always be scheduled the first Saturday of June, that it might be able to be included in any Town calendars.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, July 12 at 7 P.M. at the Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan H. Ellis, Secretary