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**TOWN OF RED HOOK
CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting
August 9, 2006

Members present: Ruth Oja, Denise Barton, Susan Ellis, Ginger Hagan, Laurie Husted, Zoie Riel, Mary Ann Johnson

In the absence of Chairwoman Brenda Cagle, Ruth Oja called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. The minutes of the June meeting were amended to note that the Household Hazardous Waste day was very busy, with lines for the hazardous waste drop off, though recycling and waste collection proceeded smoothly despite inclement weather. The minutes of the June meeting as amended, and the minutes of the July meeting were approved with a motion made by Ruth Oja and seconded by Zoie Riel.

PHOTOVOLTAIC DEMONSTRATION GRANT: Brenda Cagle had asked Laurie Husted to set up the education and outreach section of the grant, which is the responsibility of the CAC. Laurie presented an outline of tasks and CAC members that she asked to be assigned to them. They included a seminar (Laurie Husted), bulletin board notices (Denise Barton), web site information (Denise Barton), school involvement (Zoie Riel with Denise Barton), mailings (Susan Ellis), Town Board updates (Brenda Cagle), press releases (Kim Barke of Trails) and a television presentation (Jonah Triebwasser, citizen volunteer).

Laurie noted that the grant application had requested information on implementation of the energy conservation measures that New York Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has recommended. These included weatherstripping, programmable thermostats, upgrading efficiency of lights, and occupancy sensors for lights. To date, purchases have not been made for them. Susan Ellis suggested that some of the less costly items might be purchased through the CAC budget.

The Town Attorney must review the standards and conditions of the grant before submission. A requirement of the grant will be monthly data collection for two years to submit to the State.

SCENIC ROADS: Mary Ann Johnson reported that she met with the Planning Board to review the CAC memo and maps on Scenic Roads. She gave them the Town of Stanford regulations on scenic roads. Mary Ann will make corrections on the Red Hook map.

CAC members discussed who should bring the Scenic Roads initiative to the Town Board and decided that it should be the Planning Board, but the CAC would be willing to join the presentation.

Mary Ann noted that Jonathan Becker of Norton Road expressed concern about a proposed

38 unit Meadowbrook Estates and asked if scenic road designation would help protect the community character. Mary Ann said that it could, and that the Planning Board could issue a positive declaration under SEQR for community character. CAC members concurred.

BULLETIN BOARD: The CAC bulletin board is installed. Zoie Riel will ask TJ Hackett for recycling figures and news to post.

TREES: Brenda Cagle is working on permission for sites to plant trees along Route 9 and will report further.

TRAILS: Ruth Oja reported that the wetland walk trail to Apple Ring Drive is partially done. Three serviceberry trees that could not be planted at Town Hall were planted as a buffer at Apple Ring. Ruth added that the Town Board voted to approve \$1000 for Victor Cornelius to write another trail grant.

WORKSHOP: Brenda Cagle is waiting for response from Simon Gruber of Westchester to set up a water management workshop. CAC members thought that the workshop should be presented to the Intermunicipal Task Force.

MEMBERSHIP: Brenda Cagle has asked Councilwoman Jean Bordewich if Ginger Hagan can be appointed to the CAC without a resignation from Jim Rapoli.

INTERMUNICIPAL TASK FORCE PRESENTATION: Laurie Husted, Zoie Riel, Mary Ann Johnson and Ruth Oja attended. The proposed future planning considers high density development at the Cookingham property on the North end of the Village and the Hardscrabble/Old Farm Road area on the South end of the Village. This would be tied to transfer of density rights from agricultural reserve areas. The higher density village area is considered to allow feasibility for beginning sewage treatment areas. There will be a presentation to the Town Board on Wednesday, August 23.

GREEN BUILDING DESIGN CODE: CAC members discussed forming recommendations and suggested a visit to the Common Fire property to see their energy efficiency measures.

CONSERVATION EASEMENT TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION: Mary Ann Johnson suggested that any time an application was in for review that the CAC ask for archeological information from the State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The CAC reviewed the application for the Cantini/Majd property on Lasher Road and unanimously approved recommendation for easement status. It will be passed on to the Planning Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, September 13, 2006 at 7 P.M. at the Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Ellis, Secretary