

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of meeting
March 12, 2008**

Members present: Chairwoman Brenda Cagle, Denise Barton, Mike Ignatowski, Mary Ann Johnson, Zoie Riel, Susan Ellis

Chairwoman Brenda Cagle called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. The minutes of the February meeting were approved with a motion made by Denise Barton and seconded by Brenda Cagle.

RECYCLING CENTER: Councilwoman Micki Strawinski gave Brenda Cagle an update on the Recycling Center. The weather has been holding up the completion of the road, and the contractor, Morris Associates has had a change of personnel. The Department of Environmental Conservation sent the Town a letter on March 7, 2008 regarding the conditions of the Recycling center violating the DEC recycling agreement. The DEC wants to know exactly what the plans are for the Center.

Brenda Cagle reported that Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand is working with the contractor. Zoie Riel, as Recycling Coordinator for the Resource Recovery Agency, will be meeting next week with DEC, Supervisor Sue Crane and Councilwoman Micki Strawinski.

The CAC reviewed the updated Recycling brochure. One suggestion was to mention "Freecycle" on the internet. It was noted that the cost of bringing garbage on Saturdays is \$5 for a garbage can size bag, though smaller bags are \$3. CAC members asked when the Goods Exchange would open on Wednesdays. CAC members also discussed proper disposal of pharmaceuticals, which is to include them in the trash, as they would be destroyed in the burn plant, rather than disposal in septic systems, which causes pollution.

RUTH OJA SCHOLARSHIP: Brenda Cagle reported that the Ruth Oja Scholarship for environmental studies went unused last year. The Community Fund Foundation had requested that criteria for applicants be expanded, and the CAC had agreed to add performance of environmental activities as a criterion. Brenda Cagle gave the application forms to Town Clerk Sue McCann. School Guidance Counselor Gail Volk has placed notice on the school website and has given applications to students who requested them. Zoie Riel noted that on March 27 she would be speaking to the PTSA and suggested that she would mention the scholarship at that time.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING PRESENTATION MARCH 19, 2008: Brenda Cagle noted that no one is available from the New York State Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) for the March 19 date, and the speaker has been changed to Ed Smythe. Brenda will ask Laurie Husted about handouts.

CAC members have distributed flyers to village and town businesses to increase interest and attract some who are not Chamber members. Susan Ellis noted that she had received positive response from businesses that she had contacted. Brenda added that the Chamber had asked if the CAC could contribute to the cost of the meeting; Brenda has replied that under Town regulations, it is not an allowable expense. Denise Barton will attend for the Red Hook library, and Brenda Cagle, Susan Ellis, Zoie Riel and Laurie Husted will attend from the CAC.

AQUIFER PROTECTION ORDINANCE PROPOSAL: Brenda gave a report from Anne Rubin that she is progressing and would like to do a presentation in April. She has prepared a power point presentation that would be about an hour. Mary Ann Johnson suggested that it be condensed or given in a series, and CAC members agreed that it would be too long for presentation at one meeting. Denise Barton will ask Councilwoman Micki Strawinski how to schedule it.

ENERGY STAR BUILDING REQUIREMENT PROPOSAL: Brenda Cagle noted that the CAC will set up a meeting with local builders to discuss the proposal for Energy Star Building requirements. Laurie Husted will work with Zoning Enforcement Officer Steve Cole and invite Councilman Jim Ross. Steve Cole is making a list of builders to contact. The meeting should be held in April, if possible.

EARTH DAY APRIL 26, 2008: Mike Ignatowski reported that he would suggest the tree planting as a project for the Scout troops and perhaps set up an information booth on the environmental and camping badges. Brenda Cagle announced that at 9A.M. at the Recreation Park there will be coffee and registration for the tree planting. Mary Ann Johnson will be at the Village Hall with a presentation for Keep Farming, and the Tree Committee will present author Barbara Bash.