

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of meeting
April 9, 2008**

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

Guests: Councilwoman Micki Strawinski; Dr. Jane Ferguson

Chairwoman Brenda Cagle called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. She introduced Dr. Jane Ferguson as a candidate for CAC membership, who has submitted a letter of interest to the Town Board.

Denise Barton noted as a correction to the minutes of the March meeting that she had suggested that Councilwoman Strawinski be consulted about scheduling the presentation of the proposed Aquifer Protection Ordinance. The minutes of the March meeting as amended were approved with a motion made by Denise Barton and seconded by Laurie Husted.

AQUIFER PROTECTION: Anne Rubin was unable to attend the meeting due to illness, so the CAC tabled review of the proposed Aquifer Protection Ordinance until Anne would be available.

BACKYARD WILDLIFE PROGRAMS: Denise Barton noted that in response to a request for projects from Supervisor Sue Crane, she has gathered information on backyard wildlife programs. Denise reported that both the National Wildlife Federation and Audubon Society sponsor them. The Audubon Society backyard wildlife program is more intensive and does overlap with the National Wildlife Federation program, but the CAC could do both. There is a certification program online for a small fee. Outreach and education would be involved with both. The CAC discussed putting together a project for the Recreational Park.

Mike Ignatowski will research the Audubon Society program, and Laurie Husted will research the National Wildlife program. If a project is proposed for the Recreational Park, there may be grants for assistance, and the project would need support of the maintenance crew.

BIOFUELS FOR MUNICIPAL VEHICLES: Laurie Husted reported that the Town of Rhinebeck has a tank for biofuels, but needs adequate volume. Brenda Cagle noted that she has spoken with Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand about the use of biofuels. She asked if a special tank would be needed, but Wayne didn't think so. There are some compatibility issues with biodiesel, such as special gaskets and hoses. Laurie will ask Rhinebeck about what considerations should be made for planning the new highway garage for Red Hook.

RECYCLING CENTER: Councilwoman Micki Strawinski reported that a strong letter has been sent to Morris Associates regarding delays and issues with the redesign of the Recycling Center. Both Micki and Councilman Harry Colgan have received input from residents not happy with the redesign and state of the Recycling Center. The CAC discussed other considerations of site placement and the relationship of any decision on the design of the proposed new highway garage. New York State is encouraging that salt sheds be consolidated, and there may be consideration of shared facilities.

Zoie Riel reported that the Recycling Brochure has been updated. Zoie passed out flyers for Household Hazardous Waste day, which will be Saturday, June 7, 2008 for Red Hook.

RUTH OJA SCHOLARSHIP: Brenda Cagle reported that there are two applications for the scholarship, but that only one qualifies.

ENERGY STAR PROGRAM AT RED HOOK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: Ed Smythe from TMW will be the presenter at the April 16 breakfast meeting of the Chamber of Commerce at Libby McKee's. He will discuss and answer questions about the Small Business Energy Audit program and energy conservation features promoted by the New York State Energy Development and Research Authority (NYSERDA). Brenda Cagle will make reservations for CAC members able to attend. CAC members discussed notifying the Economic Development Committee.

EARTH DAY: CAC members discussed information for a table set up at Earth Day, April 26. The CAC worked on developing a questionnaire and will need volunteers. Some suggested questions were: What is important to you for the environment, and What is your interpretation of "going green?"

STREAM ALLIANCE MEETING: Brenda Cagle, Susan Ellis and Anne Rubin attended a meeting with the Rhinebeck CAC and Sheila Buff of Milan, to discuss formation of a stream alliance for the Northern Dutchess watersheds. They reported that there is much interest, and work will be done to develop a proposal.

SCENIC ROADS: Brenda Cagle, Supervisor Sue Crane and Town Attorney Chris Chale reviewed the Scenic Roads Ordinance proposal, and felt that some areas needed a field check. Brenda Cagle, Denise Barton and Susan Ellis drove the areas and made the following suggestions:

- 1) Norton Road – The section from Hewlett Road to Route 199 should be removed.
- 2) Stone Church Road – any parts within the Town should be added.
- 3) Route 9 from Rockefeller Lane to Old Post Road – There was disagreement about inclusion or removal, but the CAC decided that it should be included with notation that there are sections of commercial use which could be redeveloped in a manner appropriate to the scenic and historic character of Route 9.
- 4) Orlich Road, South side from Route 199 to Hewlett Road – don't include.
- 5) Spring Lake Road – include.
- 6) Williams Road – include (though it was previously deleted.)
- 7) Cokertown Road – include section in Red Hook.

Brenda Cagle and Mary Ann Johnson will revise the map, and Mary Ann will write the narration for Cokertown Road.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at 7 P.M. at Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Ellis, Secretary