

**TOWN OF RED HOOK
CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Minutes of special meeting
May 5, 2008

Members present: Chairwoman Brenda Cagle, Laurie Husted, Susan Ellis, Mary Ann Johnson, Anne Rubin

Guests: Councilwoman Micki Strawinski, Kristina Connolly

The special meeting was held for Anne Rubin to give the CAC a power point presentation on aquifer protection, which she put together with the help of Kristina Connolly. Chairwoman Brenda Cagle called the meeting to order at 7 P.M.

Anne Rubin began the Aquifer Protection presentation with a discussion of the features of the aquifers of Red Hook. She reviewed the geological history that developed the underlying bedrock and glacial deposits. She explained hydrological conductivity and the differences resulting from the particular composition of the bedrock and hydrologic soils groups. The different hydrologic soils groups have varying degrees of susceptibility to contamination. Therefore, some soils and locations need more protection from pollution.

Anne described the hydrological conductivity of the soils groups in Red Hook. The bedrock is largely Austin Glen greywacke, which is hard and impermeable; groundwater moves slowly through, and is only held in fractures. Clay soils are soft, holding groundwater in pores; this groundwater is not easily released, as the pores are tiny and not interconnected. Sand and gravel soils are unconsolidated, with large conductive interconnection of pore spaces. Flux density is the volume of water found moving through sediments. Soils maps and Russell Urban Meade's maps show the distribution of these features.

Anne suggested that the Centers and Greenspaces Plan should be re-evaluated for aquifer impact and watershed management.

CAC members thanked Anne and Kristina for their thorough research on the science of aquifer protection. Members suggested that while the whole presentation contained valuable information that should be a part of it, the extensive geological background might not be appropriate for the time frame of a Town Board presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Ellis, Secretary