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**TOWN OF RED HOOK  
CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting  
January 8, 2020

Members present: Chairwoman Laurie Husted, Susan Ellis, Steve Appenzeller, Leah Steinberg, Mike Zelig, Julia Solomon, Jen Cavanaugh, Lori Urbin, Abbie Urbin, Denis Collet (7:13 P.M.)

**CALL TO ORDER / QUORUM :** Chairwoman Laurie Husted called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. A quorum (full membership) was present.

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 11, 2019 CAC MEETING:** The CAC minutes of the December 11, 2019 meeting were approved with a motion made by Julia Solomon and seconded by Laurie Husted.

**ANNOUNCEMENT FOR FEBRUARY CAC MEETING:** Laurie Husted noted that for the February 12, 2020 CAC meeting, there will be a brief gathering at the Town Hall before 7 P.M. Those who are present and have reservations will carpool to the Climate Action Film Festival at Upstate Films in Rhinebeck. Susan Ellis noted that she would be absent.

**HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB REPORT:** HSEC coChair person Abigail Urbin gave a report on the Composting Project and other Club activities. The wintry weather mix was not helpful for participation in the composting. Club members continued to craft “t” shirt bags for distribution to remind residents of the coming ban on plastic bags.

*The CAC thanked Abbie for her input. She left the meeting at 7:17 P.M.*

**DEC SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS:** Jen Cavanaugh reported that applications are due by January 17, 2020. Only one person from Rhinebeck has shown interest. Jen will keep the CAC posted.

**CAC AND EMC ROUNDTABLE:** Laurie Husted announced that the date of the 2020 CAC and EMC roundtable is Tues. February 25 at 6:30 P.M. at the Farm and Home Center in Millbrook. The CCEDC (Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County) Energy and Environment team asks attendees to be prepared to summarize 2019 activities and their successes and /or difficulties along with goals for 2020.

**ENERGY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:** Denis Collet noted that the air source heat pumps are scheduled to be operative in January. They will provide all the heat for the Town Hall building.

The Community Solar Farm was turned on as of December 21, 2019. Denis would like some discussion about solar battery storage.

Denis added that the Energy Subcommittee is looking to put a solar installation on the Highway garage. He suggested reaching out to someone who might volunteer to document the history of the Town of Red Hook's process of supporting solar energy installations and track what the results have been in reduced energy usage.

**SAW KILL WATERSHED COMMUNITY ( SKWC):** The SKWC is proposing to include the Mudder Kill and Stony Creek, looking for funding to provide community stewardship of local natural resources to protect water quality. The application is titled “Building Capacity for Watershed Restoration and Protection in the Saw Kill, Mudder Kill, and Stony Creek Watersheds: Through Education, Monitoring and Policy Development. SKWC is asking the Town for a Letter of Support, along with listing the CAC as community partner, to give the funding application more status.

**REPAIR CAFE RED HOOK:** Coordinator Steve Appenzeller announced that the date for the January Repair Cafe is Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> from 10 A.M. To 1 P.M. at the Red Hook Community Center. It is the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Red Hook project. Steve added that a similar roster of repair trainers is expected, and perhaps some new ones. He encourages any CAC members who can to join the event and provide refreshments.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

**NEXT MEETING:** February 12, 2020, CAC members who have reservations for the Rhinebeck Climate Action Film Festival at Upstate Films will meet at Town Hall at 7PM sharp to depart for the Film Festival at 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Ellis, Secretary