

## **Town of Red Hook Conservation Advisory Council Meeting**

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

**Attending:** Laurie Husted, Jen Cavanaugh, Steve Appenzeller, Michael Zelig, Lori Urban, Denis Collet, Leah Steinberg, Susan Ellis, Julia Solomon, Jacob Testa

**Guest:** Amelia LeGare, [The O Zone](#)

Meeting opened by Laurie Husted at 7:02pm

November minutes approved: Motion by Mike, second by Jen

**Miscellaneous:** Solar Siting webinar took place today; Julia will try to get recording. Upcoming webinars on wetlands and NRIs: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/120539.html>

### **Materials:**

Amelia LeGare presented on her Community Compost CSA program and discussed options for piloting some version of this program with the Town of Red Hook, with food waste dropoff most likely occurring at the Red Hook Transfer Station. Food scraps would be transported from there to UCCRA, with finished compost returned to participants in spring. All food scraps are acceptable, including meat, dairy, etc. There was discussion of various pricing and funding options, how to avoid contamination, economies of scale for transportation of food scraps, and how to encourage and regulate participation. There is a lot of interest from the CAC on trying a pilot program for this since we have been talking about compost for a long time and this could be a valuable first step in understanding community demand, production volume, etc. CAC will discuss this again soon to consider next steps.

### **Planning:**

Little news about the Route 9 helipad application lately. Sound studies are required and a demo was scheduled for mid-November. Laurie saw a recent news article about the application process. Other applications to the Planning Board include minor lot line adjustments, fences, etc. There is also an application from Greig Farm to revise two lots between Rockefeller & Pitcher Lane in preparation for application for an airstrip.

Laurie brought up concerns from a resident in Linden Acres about recent flooding and the fact that there is an approved (2013) subdivision that is going through the contracting process now that might currently or in future exacerbate this problem. Questions about who has jurisdiction over this concern (if related to current construction-related disturbance, should be building inspector and/or DEC, but if about permit process then Planning Board). Resident would like to see update of SEQR, wetland delineation, etc. Resident is in touch with Planning Board; CAC will continue to monitor this topic.

### **Land & Water:**

Mike had asked people to consider their the six most important resources in the town for formulation of an updated NRI. Not everyone had completed this project. Mike shared potential categories including: Geology, Groundwater, Surface Water, Open Space, Habitat and Scenic. There was discussion of how more specific resources, places or land uses (e.g. Montgomery Place, disconnected wetlands, agriculture) can be incorporated into a plan. The plan should be a reflection of what the community values and feels should be protected. People will continue to think about this topic and come to the January meeting prepared to discuss what resources they feel are important.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59pm.