

**Town of New Paltz**  
**Clean Water and Open Space Protection Commission (CWOSP)**  
**Approved Minutes, Meeting of November 9, 2016, at the Community Center**

**Members Present:** Brad Barclay, Kevin Borden, Lynn Bowdery, Marion DuBois, Richard Fiesel, John Gotto, Cara Lee, Seth McKee, and Dennis Moore (Andrew Titus away due to a family illness)

**Town Officials:** None

**Public present:** None.

**Minutes taken by:** Lynn Bowdery, CWOSP Commission member and Secretary.

**1. Meeting called to order at:** 7:10 PM by Chairman Dennis Moore

**2. Public comments:** There were no public comments.

**3. Review, amend & approve minutes:** After a brief discussion, Brad Barclay moved to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2016 meeting as amended. John Gotto seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

**4. Taliaferro applicaton:** Dennis Moore thanked Brad Barclay for his work on the Project Evaluation Form. He would like to propose a vote to send a recommendation to the Town Board to fund this application, but was asked to hold off on this pending the outcome of a meeting with Equity Trust, a national non-profit organization (equitytrust.org) that has a Hudson Valley Farm Affordability Program, and which might be able to add a layer of protection, the "pre-emptive purchase right and covenant to farm" and adds more money to go to the farmer's family. Dennis requested to be authorized to write a letter to the Town Board urging it to purchase the conservation easement (CE) with the possible addition of the Equity Trust layer of protection. ***Lynn Bowdery and Seth McKee recused themselves from voting or expressing opinions regarding this proposal, as employees of Scenic Hudson and Wallkill Valley Land Trust, non-profits involved in this transaction.*** Kevin Borden suggested having a concurrent strategy of promoting the project with the County, including our representatives Jim Delaune and Hector Rodriguez, and ask the Town Board for a letter of support from the Town to the County for this project.

Dennis said he asked Jean Gallucci, the Town Comptroller, about the mechanics of borrowing \$120,000. He got a detailed response of what is involved in getting a Bond Anticipation Note, with many options that might be pursued. Kevin wondered if there is a Plan B if the county doesn't come through to help fund the CE purchase. Dennis said that Christine DeBoer (WVLT) and Andy Bickins (Scenic Hudson) are hopeful the county has an Open Space Fund that has not yet been used.

"Motion to have Dennis Moore write a letter to the Town Board recommending that the Town purchase the conservation easement on the Taliaferro Farm based on the current application which represents 1/3 of the total cost of the CE, with or without the participation of Equity Trust to add 'pre-emptive purchase right and covenant to farm' to the project, at limited additional cost to the Town for stewardship."

All members present except the two recused members voted in favor of the motion. They are Brad Barclay, Kevin Borden, Marion DuBois, Richard Fiesel, John Gotto, Cara Lee, and Dennis Moore.

Kevin Borden moved that the CWOSP Commission recommend that the Town Board send a letter of support to the County for the purchase of the CE on the Taliaferro Farm and that the County provide a full third of the cost of the purchase, along with the Town of New Paltz and Scenic Hudson.

All members present except the two recused members voted in favor of the motion.

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**5. Mill Brook Preserve update:** The Town Board has voted to place a conservation easement on its two properties. There will be a meeting between Mill Brook Preserve, Inc. and the Town on a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the management of Mill Brook Preserve on November 10.

For the Village of New Paltz, Rebecca Rotzler will be the MBP liaison, and a new lawyer will be appointed to work on the conservation easement for the Village's property. The regular Village attorney over-redlined the draft CE in his review and eviscerated all the protections that would have made it a conservation easement. Dennis expressed confidence that it would work out eventually.

**6. Other business:** Dennis Moore's run in the New York City Marathon brought in some money for MBP, Inc. Donations can be made to New Paltz Community Foundation, P. O. Box 1112, New Paltz, NY 12561, with a note that it is for MBP, Inc. honoring Dennis's marathon run.

**7. New business:** Review the Open Space Plan for the December meeting. Cara suggested looking at it to see what was accomplished and what areas are still vulnerable or desirable to protect.

Dennis Moore will be away for the January and February meetings.

**8: Adjournment:** Seth McKee moved that the meeting be adjourned. Brad Barclay seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM.