

Town of New Paltz
Clean Water and Open Space Protection Commission (CWOSP)
Approved Minutes, Meeting of August 11, 2015, at the Community Center

Members Present: Kevin Borden, Lynn Bowdery, Marion DuBois, Richard Fiesel, John Gotto, Doug McBride, Dennis Moore

Town Officials: Marty Irwin, Town of New Paltz Board liaison to CWOSP Comm.
John Stark, Chairman, Village of New Paltz Environmental Policy Commission
Rachel Lagodka, Member (?) Village of NP Env. Policy Commission
David Gilmour, Village of New Paltz Planner

Public present: Julie Lillis, Friends of the Mill Brook Preserve, via speakerphone from Wyoming, connected 7:25PM

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

1. Meeting called to order at: 7.05 PM by Chairman Dennis Moore

2. Public Comments: No public comments were made.

3. Review & Approve Minutes: The minutes for the July 2015 meeting were briefly discussed. Marion DuBois moved to approve the minutes as written. John Gotto seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

4. Mill Brook Preserve Report - Marty and Kevin: Status update on the Consolidated Funding Grant application-- it was submitted early Friday, July 31, for costs of materials, engineering costs, parking and trailhead, costs for signage, benches, educational displays, tools, a shed-- for about \$195,000. There was a question whether land acquisition costs count as a leveraged match, also operations costs count as a match? Seth McKee said that if the acquisition occurs within three years prior to the grant application, it does. We might hear about the awarding of the grant in October.

5. Conservation Grant Work Session - Dave Gilmour: Dave Gilmour said that he drafted a letter for State Senator Bonacic to sign in support of the CFA Grant. He said that a Greenway Conservancy Trails Grant is also an opportunity to get as much as \$5,000 for things that were not included in the CFA grant. He asked the group for ideas about what is needed for the southeast end of the Bienstock parcel. Since the acquisition of that part was known as certain only recently, no plans have been made for it as part of the CFA grant application.

Chairman Dennis Moore guided the conversation about what is to be done with the funding we would request from a Greenway grant. Kevin Borden asked for specifics about the timing of the grant application and what it can be used for. Dave Gilmour explained that the grant would be for a discrete project, must be submitted in early September, awarded in October-- a fast turnaround - and we can show connection with other trails, possibly the rail trails. Lynn Bowdery mentioned that we had previously discussed linking with other trails and we didn't see the Mill Brook Preserve as a route from here to there. Richard Fiesel said that the Greenway concept also includes wildlife corridors. Julie Lillis said she likes the Mill Brook Preserve Plan's

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focus on the protection of the Trib. 13 watershed. Dave Gilmour said that there are also Greenway Planning Grants that can be sought. Marion DuBois added that she thinks that the animals of the Preserve should be the focus, not the humans. Dennis Moore asked if we couldn't use a Greenway Grant to do more with the trails already planned? The conversation turned to a possible access point from North Manheim Blvd. The right kind of path could help with the present erosion problem there and stop contamination and siltation of Trib. 13. John Stark said he liked the idea of an access point at No. Manheim. There is already an existing social path, hard parking- maybe a bicycle rack could be added. There was a digression here about how to prevent access by ATVs and other motor vehicles.

Kevin Borden refocused the discussion by asking a set of questions: Does it make sense to go after the \$5,000? Does it make sense to focus on the Manheim entry? Does it make sense as an entry level grant? What do we need to go forward? Dave Gilmour said we need to have a working group to move it forward. Lynn Bowdery asked whether this has to be done now. Could we get going on the Preserve and then have a better idea of what is needed? Dave said that we have the momentum now and can get leverage. Lynn asked how long a Greenway Grant would give for carrying out the project. Dave said he wasn't certain but it was at least a year. Dennis said that the next logical step is to form a working group for the Greenway grant. Julie, Kevin, Marty and Gian Starr will be the Greenway Grant Group. Dave asked for bullet points to use in the application.

Chairman Dennis Moore asked for a motion to for the CWOSP Comm. Chairman to create a resolution in support of pursuing a Greenway Trails grant, providing that the CWOSP Comm. approved of its details. Marion DuBois moved the resolution that the Chairman write a letter of support for the Greenway grant application. Doug McBride seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

6. Other Business: Marty Irwin has devised a volunteer time tracking sheet for work done on the Mill Brook Preserve. The CFA grant, if received, accepts volunteer time at \$15.00/hr toward the Town's matching responsibility.

7. New Business: None

8. Adjournment: Richard Fiesel moved that the meeting be adjourned. Marion DuBois seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13PM.