

New Paltz Solar Law Meeting
Tuesday May 15, 2018, 7 – 9 PM
Deyo Hall
18 Broadhead Street, New Paltz

- 7:00 – 7:10 Welcome and Introductions – Kevin Borden – Co-chair, Clean Water Open Space Commission (CWOSP)
- 7:10 – 7:15 Review of Agenda – Kevin Borden
- 7:15 – 7:30 New Paltz Resource Mapping – Ingrid Haeckel – Chair, Environmental Conservation Board (EnCB)
- 7:30 – 8:15 Introduction to NY SUN Technical Assistance Program,
Review of Model Solar Law - Candace Rossi, Project Manager, NY-Sun
- 8:15 – 8:45 Discussion – led by Ingrid Haeckel and Cara Lee
- CWOSP and EnCB have identified questions about design of New Paltz’s solar law, including:
- Q1. What size ground-mounted grid-tied systems should be allowed? Should there be a fixed limit on size or should it be set as a percentage of a parcel area?
- Q2. How can the community incorporate information from our natural resource inventory to assure that sensitive habitat and important farmland is protected? Can a resource analysis at early planning/site design stage be incorporated to the model code, as in Warwick’s solar law?
- Q3. How can the siting of arrays be done that minimizes the visual impact on open spaces, landscapes of rural character, and scenic views? How can the concerns of individual neighbors be balance against the benefits of all Town residents as well as visitors?
- Q4. To what extent can a landowner modify property for construction of a solar energy system? Cutting of trees? Grading of surface? Is this already controlled by existing code?
- Q5. How does the agricultural district designation influence the development of solar on designated farmland?
- 8:45 – 9:00 Identify committee to work on solar law
- 9:00 PM Adjourn