

Town of New Paltz Environmental Conservation Board
Minutes of the Meeting of August 15, 2022
via videoconference

Present: Chris Beadle, Rob Ferri, Rose Rudnitski, Kenji Tierney
Amanda Gotto, Planning Board Liaison
Janelle Peotter, Climate Smart Liaison
Kathy Preston, Secretary

Rose called the meeting to order at 7:42 pm.

1. Kenji moved, Chris 2nd to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 18th, 2022.
All in favor.
2. Rob will attend the 8/22 Planning Board Meeting and Chris will attend on 9/12.
3. Amanda updated the Board on the following projects:
 - Farmer's Choice is asking for a waiver of the tree survey.
 - The New Paltz Storage resolution was approved, the building is now one story tall.
 - HVFCU will need a wetlands permit and public hearing
 - Cragwood Lot Line Revision: Of the two lots, one is currently landlocked that would become buildable lot. This property is in the CEA, and a public hearing will be required.
 - DuBois Lot Line Revision: Bald eagle nesting information needs to be updated
 - N. Ohioville: This is an application for a 6-lot subdivision. The back end of the properties are wetlands, so it qualifies for a cluster subdivision approach, which the Planning Board is allowed to require, as well as a 50% conservation easement.

The EnCB will need to put together letters regarding environmental impacts.
Amanda reminded the group of the information available on the UC mapper and the NRI. Rose volunteered to work with another volunteer to create letters.

4. Climate Smart Update:
 - The Climate Smart Book Club will meet to discuss *The Climate Diet* at 7:00 on 8/16; the next book is *The Flag, the Cross, & the Station Wagon* by Bill McKibben
 - The Climate Smart Task Force meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 via Zoom
 - The Community Action Plan community engagement and outreach is ongoing. There will be a workshop on October 11 with Pace University consultants on the community strategy to reduce GHG emissions.
 - Battery Energy Storage Task Force needs members, contact Janelle if you are interested in joining.
5. Rob has been officially appointed to the EnCB by the Town Board.

6. Janelle read a letter from Nikita Oarcea, who is interested in serving on the UCEMC. He is not currently a resident of New Paltz but plans on moving to town in the near future. Chris moved, Kenji 2nd to appoint Rob Ferri as liaison to the Ulster County Environmental Management Council. All in favor. Rose moved, Chris 2nd to extend an invitation to Nikita Oarcea to join the EnCB once he becomes a resident. All in favor.
7. The Gardiner EnCB has asked to collaborate on education and outreach for a series of events and asking for co-sponsorship of an event on August 29, a talk about the correlation between development and Lyme disease. Rose moved, Kenji 2nd that the EnCB Coordinate efforts with Gardiner EnCB and Village ECB for public outreach. There was a brief discussion regarding details and the role of the EnCB as defined by Town Law. All opposed, the motion failed. This may be revisited at the next meeting.
8. Cornell Cooperative Extension will be holding four sessions of Flood Hazard Mitigation Trainings in October.
9. Rose moved, Chris 2nd to thank Kathy Preston for her work as EnCB Secretary and wish her well in her new position. All in favor.

Chris moved, Kenji 2nd to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.