

Town of New Paltz
Environmental Conservation Board
November 14, 2018
Community Center
7:30pm

Participants: Ingrid Haeckel, Rose Rudnitski, Ted Nitza, Noel Russ, Jim Littlefoot

Meeting called to order at 8:06PM

Public Comment: none

Approval of October 10 minutes: 5-0 in favor

Planning Board Projects:

Tow-Rific

- The project appears to be a very tight fit for the size of the lot and out of character with the residential nature of the neighborhood.
- We're concerned about the lack of stormwater management on the site given extent of proposed new impervious surfaces and proximity to neighboring residences.
- Will there be any petroleum bulk storage tanks on the property?
- There is no apparent back-up septic leach field

8 Joalyn Rd Lot Line Revision

- No comments

(November PB liaison: Noel)

Discussion Items:

2019 meetings will continue to be 2nd Wednesday except for January 16.

PB liaison schedule:

Dec 10 - Janelle

Jan - Ted

Feb - Ingrid

Mar - Rose

Apr - Kenji

May - Jim

June - Susan

Critical Environmental Areas (Ingrid)

- Shared draft of five potential CEAs. Will refine descriptions to share with EPB and CWOSP. Add more labels to the map. Need to think about plan for public outreach. Meet with Neil first to discuss.

Awareness and Collaboration Report from the Village's Environmental Policy Board (Ted)

- Full membership now –high school senior joined.
- CEAs: Want to add the Millbrook Preserve.
 - o Ingrid – could use boundaries from the Preserve Management Plan
- Paint swap – need volunteers – 2nd Saturday each month.
- Methane to energy report is done; presentation postponed. WWTP is large enough to make it feasible.
- Dan (high school student) wants to do bike sharing venture
 - o Has it been tried before? (Rose recalls something similar)

- BYOB Ordinance – EPB likely to recommend that the Village delete the current Village Plastic Bag ordinance and then refer to the New County law.
 - o EnCB could join EPB in intermunicipal effort (add regulation of take-out bags)
- Plastic straws next?!

Weed killer update

- Joe has drafted 3 additional letters to raise awareness re: Glyphosate. Provide feedback by Nov 28.

EMC update (Jim)

- Propane to energy plant proposed on the water near Newburgh (former Danskammer Plant). Trying to find out how much pollution it might cause. Another plant proposed in Town of Ulster. Not divulging information about emissions. Plan to meet with Mike Hein to try to get more information from the developer. Public health concerns. Janelle -Climate Action Coalition got grant to fight Glidepath – Iris Bloom is leading it.

Bee City USA (Rose)

- Google Docs list of possible endorsements growing. Rose will present to garden club in April.

Climate Smart Communities grant, Green Business Initiative update (Janelle)

- Task force meets Monday. Greenhouse Gas Inventory will be done by next month. Climate Action Plan will focus on what the town can do about it.

Waste Management: Addressing Today's Challenges – Nov 10th meeting. (Janelle) Paintcare legislation – stewardship program. Paint accounts for 50% of household hazardous waste. Recycling crisis. Sales of recycling has decreased 80%. Markets may never recover. Everything goes to Seneca Meadows landfill -230 miles from Kingston. 12-18 semi-trailers from Kingston each day!! Need to do so much more education about what's being recycled and not. Single stream has wrecked the market – levels of contamination are way too high. Jim –EMC is discussing the issue –Seneca landfill will reach capacity within 6-10 years.

Saw Mill Brook water testing (Noel) – no update.

Solar Committee kick-off (Janelle and Rose) – set dates for meetings, timeline for drafting solar law.

County Plastic Bag Ban approved

Meeting adjourned at 9:38pm.

Announcements:

New email: encb@townofnewpaltz.org

Nov 29th –Climate Action Coalition sponsoring an energy expo at St Josephs, 7pm.