

Town of New Paltz
Environmental Conservation Board
December 2, 2015
Community Center
7:30 pm

Participants: Laura Deney, Libby Zemaitis, Mike Domitrovits, Joe Bergstein, Mike Merriman, Ingrid Haeckel and Jim Littlefoot. Also present is Dan Torres, Town Board member.

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m.

Public Comment: Eric Stott is present with his attorney Kimberly Garrison to discuss proposed development of 105 Route 208. Stott reports that since the development of West Hawk Drive the once densely-wooded land is now littered with dead 50-year-old trees and is always wet and frequently flooded. Berming and trenching was implemented in 2012 but deterioration continued due to water runoff. Culverts are inadequate. Stott is also concerned about absentee landlords and overuse of the two houses proposed and inadequate septic systems. If the Planning Board approves the permit but the property is not properly maintained, it will be a disaster. No perc test has been done. Dave Clouser's letter of 11/22 addresses latest submission by builders. Soil test should be redone for heavier soil type than type 3. The new plans don't address the issues in EnCB's letter of last January recommending the permit be denied Stott would like EnCB to recommend once again the permit be denied based on this. Jim: A closed-system septic might be a good option to recommend. Mike D – We should recommend that a stormwater management plan be required.

New Member: Ingrid is officially a member now.

Approval of October/November Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Mike D, seconded by Joe, to approve the November meeting minutes. All in favor with one abstention. A motion was made by Joe, seconded by Ingrid, to approve the October meeting minutes. All in favor.

Financial Disclosure forms and Conflict of Interest: Mike D will bring to meeting. All should sign.

Norman's Tree Planting: Donations/final cost/watering. Is anyone owed money? Laura collected final donations to pay Bloom.

Planning Board Projects Status:

- LP Builders Subdivision at 105 Rte 208 for steep slopes permit. See above presentation by Eric Stott. Mike D made a motion to submit a letter to the PB based on our discussion today to be drafted by Mike M reiterating our original concerns of Norman's January 2015 letter. Seconded by Laura. All in favor with one abstention.

- 69 Shivertown Rd. Application for variance to build addition onto one foot of 20-foot buffer. No EnCB comment.

CVS: Town Board Liaison Dan Torres indicated that the Town Board intends to respond to the EnCB's latest letter regarding the CVS application. Has anyone received a Town Board response? Jeff Logan has not yet distributed the draft letter for the Town Board to vote on.

Discussions:

- Ulster County EMC Meeting Report (Jim): Kingston is receiving a lot of money through the efforts of its grant writer for LED lights, electric car stations, roads, pumping reservoir. Might need new chairperson if Noble wins mayoral election.
- Flood Plain Law proposed Amendments (Mike M & Libby): Mike M: 50% damage due to any origin is a federal standard, not something the town made up to harass residents. However, he could not find precedent for the driveway elevation requirements. The Town Board appeared to be inclined to make these minor changes to placate homeowners. Mike D feels intent of the law is sound, building codes need to be met in any case when one rebuilds, and the federal guidelines are not unique to the Town of New Paltz. Mike D will draft letter in time for next Tuesday's Town Board meeting.

New Business

MS4 Compliance (Joe): DEC two free presentations Mandy Wolfson and Amanda Lavalley. MS4 training. Stacy Delarede is the organizer?

Proposed New Paltz Microgrid system: Resiliency project, local-generated energy, public-private partnership. Needs cooperation of school, college, etc. Mike D doesn't see who is the beneficiary here. Not the taxpayer. School already has 2 megawatt solar panels to be installed - why is that not being integrated? Solar is cheaper. Does not see huge economic advantage to offset problems associated with microgrids.

Dan is on the joint municipal center committee. The plan is to tear down former town hall building and form a Local Development Company.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ingrid and seconded by Libby All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 pm.