

Town of New Paltz
Environmental Conservation Board
Minutes of the meeting of June 16, 2021
via videoconference

Present: Ingrid Haeckel, Hope Nitza, Ted Nitza, Rose Rudnitski, Yoni Schwartz, Susan Stessin-Cohn, Kenji Tierney, Rich Whitney
Janelle Peotter, Climate Smart Liaison
Amanda Gotto, Planning Board Liaison
Kathy Preston, Secretary
Absent: Julie Seyfert-Lillis, Town Board Liaison

Rich called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

1. Ted moved, Yoni 2nd to approve the May 19, 2021 EnCB minutes as amended. All in favor.
2. Rich will attend the June 28 Planning Board meeting and Ted will attend the July 12 meeting.
3. Ingrid will be tendering her resignation from the EnCB before July. The Board expressed their thanks for her service.
4. There was a discussion regarding a subdivision proposal for 192 Mountain Rest Road, just below the reservoir. The property contains steep slopes and wetlands. A shared driveway was suggested as a possible way to avoid encroachment on the stream and wetlands. This proposal has not come before the Planning Board yet but could potentially be addressed on June 28. Ingrid suggests that the EnCB draft a memo encouraging preliminary review; Rich offered to draft and review with Ingrid.
5. The Planning Board is now officially an Involved Agency for the New Paltz Apartments project (subdivision, annexation, and site plan). A combined SEQR was performed and a positive declaration was given. The Public Hearing date has not yet been set.
6. There was a brief discussion regarding New Paltz Sporting Clays and the process for wetland enforcement. Amanda will ask that this be addressed at the June 28 meeting .
7. Ted gave an update on the most recent Village EPB meeting.
8. Susan moved, Rose 2nd to approve the tree removal permit for 198 Plutarch Rd. Ingrid abstained; all others in favor.

9. Yoni moved, Ted 2nd to approve the tree removal permit for 100 Plains Rd. All in favor.
10. Janelle gave an update on Climate Smart activities to the Board. The Climate Smart Book Club meets at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month; the next selection is *Good Husbandry* by Kristen Kimball, farmer and daughter-in-law of Ann and Dan Guenther. The Climate Smart Coalition is looking at a pilot program with restaurants to facilitate the use of reusable takeout containers. The Zoom garden plot is currently on hold.
11. The Natural Resources Inventory has been approved and adopted by both the Town and Village Boards. Hard copies will be delivered Friday and the inventory will be linked on the Town and Village websites as well. There was a discussion regarding use and implementation of the NRI and ways to include the NRI as a step in the application process. It was emphasized that getting this information to applicants before the site plan is created is key.
12. The compost/pollinator garden project at the Community Center had excellent inter-generational turnout and the bins are ready for use. Rose will include this project in the Bee City application.
13. The Public Hearing on Critical Environmental Areas will most likely be extended to July 15. The Board discussed and assigned letters to read at the 6/17/21 public hearing.

Rose moved, Kenji 2nd to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.