

## **ENCB JULY 2014 MEETING MINUTES**

Town of New Paltz  
Environmental Conservation Board  
July 9, 2014  
40 Main Street  
7:30 pm

Participants: Rhett, Joe, Norman, Laura, Mike, Libby, John

Public Comment: none

Review/approval of June meeting minutes: Mike makes a motion to approve minutes. Norman notes that the number of parking spaces for the foothills has been changed in the paper; it is 113 not 123. All agree that this specification will be reflected in the current minutes (instead of changing the June minutes). Joe seconds the motion and the minutes are unanimously approved.

Planning Board Projects Status:

Mohonk Preserve Testimonial Gatehouse Plan:

Norman submitted a letter to the Planning Board last month, as approved by EnCB members via email. Now a letter is drafted for the editor of the New Paltz times. Traffic is the issue, also whether Mohonk is following the wetland law. Laura questioned whether we, as the EnCB, are for or against this project, as it's for people to enjoy nature. Rhett says it is our duty as the ENCB to raise environmental issues for the public and the Boards we advise to consider, not to make policy judgments. The letter was modified, and Joe made a motion to approve the letter as revised, John seconds. All in favor 7-0.

Shop Rite Plaza Renovations/Upgrade--amended site plan. The number of parking spaces has been reduced significantly, but why do they still have more than necessary? John wonders if another chunk of spaces may be removed somewhere. Joe suggests removing the old Sunoco pavement in the back and putting in a rain garden. Libby offers to get some facts and numbers together for the EnCB to suggest more green infiltration systems for beautification, to protect the property and community, and to benefit the environment. John will take plans to go over specific drainage concerns.

Wildberry Lodge: Initial Letter with comments drafted. Also, Wildberry sent a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). Libby and Laura will attend the planning board meeting on July 28th. The letter is revised on the topic of permeable surfaces.

Brief discussion of how and if we should use googledocs for letter writing.

Libby moves to approve the revised letter, Joe seconds. All in favor 6-0

CVS Amended Plan--signage and asking for a variance on their signs

We would like to attend a ZBA meeting in the near future. Mike raises safety issues about roof as a comment; he will write the ZBA.

Amended plan for Novellas, 2 Terwilliger Lane No comments.

EnCB liaison report--Libby will go next month.

Discussions:

Drilling on Plains road--testing by Chazen hydrogeologists. Rhett, John, Libby and Joe all live there and would like baseline testing for the residents. Apparently, some wells were affected and a community group has been formed.

Joe summarizes the presentation of his ideas offered to the Town Board--Jeff Logan said he will respond. Joe's statement is not in the newspaper yet, but hopefully tomorrow. Raising issues at public comment at Town Board is a great way to get green ideas out there. Joe discusses Climate Smart, DEC has certification program, Joe has a book on the steps that are required: street lights to LED, its a great idea book for New Paltz. Kingston is certified, only a handful have done it. Are we interested in this as a community? The Town Board needs to commit to this, some expense is there. Eventually it pays for itself, but it takes time. Libby suggests should we go for a higher level than anyone has been to before--good press. Rhett thinks a great way to raise the issue is by speaking at Town Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 on motion of Mike, seconded by Libby.