

Town of New Paltz
Environmental Conservation Board
October 1, 2014
Community Center
7:30 pm

Participants: Mike Domitrovits, Rhett Weires, Perry Goldschein, Jim Littlefoot, Libby Murphy, Laura Deney, Norman Turner.

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Review/Approval of September and August Meeting Minutes: Mike made a motion to approve the September minutes as amended by Rhett and Perry. Norman seconded the motion. All in favor with 1 abstaining. Mike made a motion to approve the August minutes, which was seconded by Libby. All in favor with 2 abstentions.

Planning Board Projects Status:

- Crown Castle: Sprint replacement of generator at Cell Tower by the Transfer Station on Clearwater Road. 132 gallon above-ground diesel tank. Mike would like confirmation that they meet the most current requirements.
- Tree Removal Application at 12 Bruce Street & (future application SOP – Rhett): David Miller, homeowner, arrived at the meeting. At issue is a row of spruces. The plan is to replace them with shrubbery. Norman made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Laura. Unanimously passed.
- 121 Shivertown Road. Area Variance application for pool. No comment.
- 448 N Ohioville Road, Lot Line Revision. Purpose appears to be correcting the problem that the septic is on the other lot. No comment.
- 116-136 Woodstock Lane (off Cragwood), side yard setback variance for pool. No comment.
- 7 Terwilliger Lane, Sign height and area variance for Super 8. No comment.
- ENCB liason report of Planning Board meeting:

Libby attended the last Planning Board meeting as EnCB liaison. There was discussion about Rite Aid interior remodel, which the Board approved with no discussion of energy efficiency. Another topic was the Wildberry Lodge scoping document feedback to developers. Mentioned wetlands law in effect, need for buffers. Ten critical receptor points to evaluate further. Transportation issues were also brought up. The DOT is

supposed to report on traffic concerns looking forward ten years. They would like Wildberry to comment on the DOT report. Looking at special thruway exit. Possible traffic roundabouts in New Paltz were discussed, which Libby feels are dangerous for pedestrians. Chair Mike Calimano wanted to see the impact on the village of full occupancy at the lodge. Board member Lagusta Yearwood said that the project represents a huge loss of open space and would be the first thing visitors would see of New Paltz, and should therefore be a green showcase. Mike Domitrovits pointed out they only have to comply with Energy Star standards, although those are not that different from LEED. The PB approved unanimously the scoping document. Wildberry needs a zoning variance. Steve Turk, the developer, invited Libby to tour Rocking Horse Ranch and Laura suggested we invite him to an EnCB meeting. Libby will also attend the next PB meeting.

Discussions:

- Tree Removal Application Information Sheet: Rhett passed out a tree removal application information sheet for property owners, designed to be more succinct than reading the entire code, and invited other board members to edit it. Libby will make a Google document to share.
- Ulster County Environmental Management Council Meeting Report (Jim): Woodstock and Hurley obtained a large grant to put in solar power on 13 acres of town property which will cover 80% of their electricity needs. Jim would like to get the New Paltz grant writer's name and email address so that grant possibilities could be sent directly to him. Jim has a copy of his contract. Jim also reported that over 200 trucks a day on roads are expected from selling reservoir water between Hurley and Kingston. A new water bottling plant would possibly employ 125 people.
- Millbrook Preserve – status and EnCB role (Perry). Two hundred forty acres owned by the Town. The Clean Water and Open Space Commission's most recent plan was submitted last month. The plan is for some easements and acquisitions and some limited infrastructure such as trails and interpretive signs. CWOSC members Seth McKee of Scenic Hudson and Cara Lee have been shepherding the project for years. We could contact them and ask how we might be of help in implementation phase or review. Norm brought up the polluted water entering Tributary 13 (Mill Brook) from village systems.
- Wallkill River – EnCB role to assist with recovery efforts (Perry). Don Kerr. Village now has an Environmental Policy Commission. Don Kerr is on it and in a letter to the editor of the New Paltz Times last month proposed a 3-part plan to address Wallkill River pollution. Norman said it might be worthwhile to get in touch with previous EnCB board members Scott Cuppett and Seth McKee. Jim said to contact Riverkeeper, Dan Shapley, who is trying to get people from NJ border in Orange County involved. His monitoring is an essential step to determine level at which EPA scrutiny and oversight might happen.
- Street lights (Norman). There was a presentation on solar powered street lights to the Town Board. Kingston is looking into it. Savings appear to be on the order of 60%

according to one light that was on a meter. Again, if town wants to install all its own new lighting equipment, it's a big project.

- Plastic Bag ban, follow up on joining with Village – Joe. Joe not present.
- Parking Lots subcommittee: Joe is setting up the October meeting date.

Libby brought some materials to recommend, share, keep on file for reference:

- NYS Stormwater Management Design Manual
- Scenic Resources in the Shawangunk Mountains Region: A Guide for Planning Boards.

New Business – None.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mike and seconded by Rhett. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.