

## **FINAL MEETING MINUTES**

Town of New Paltz  
Environmental Conservation Board  
September 3, 2014  
Town Hall  
7:30 pm

Meeting opened at 7:35 (Present: Rhett Weires, Mike Domitrovits, Libby Murphy, Norman Turner, Jim Littlefoot, Perry Goldschein, Joe Bergstein. Absent: Laura Deney, John House Wilson. No Liasons in attendance)

### **Public Comment:**

The Aubain's, from 51 Henry DuBois were present to elaborate on their tree application to remove 2 trees. Lou explained his concerns with the trees and their "poor" condition. One of the trees is very close to their incoming power line. The trees would be removed to prevent them from falling in a storm and enhance the productivity of their proposed solar installation by approximately 15%.

### **Review/Approval of August Meeting Minutes:**

Jeanne DeTar, secretary to the EnCB, was not present to issue the August minutes. Approval was tabled to the October meeting.

Welcome new member Perry Goldschein. He was attending his first meeting as an EnCB board member. Rhett explained to Perry the EnCB mission, including our responsibility of enforcing the tree preservation law.

### **Planning Board Projects Status:**

- Mohonk Preserve Testimonial Gatehouse Plan
  - Site Visit Planned? Discussed the possibility of Dan Torres setting up a visit.
- Tree Removal Applications
  - 51 Henry W. DuBois (reconsideration)  
By a vote of 5-0 in favor with 2 abstentions, the reconsideration to accept the tree removal was approved for 51 Henry DuBois, Aubain submittal.
  - 12 Bruce Street application. The owner requested the application be addressed at the October meeting. The trees did not seem to be of high concern and not of high value. The owner is expected to attend the October meeting where we will discuss this further and vote on the application.
  - 59 Shivertown tree removal application was submitted for reconsideration. The applicant did not appear to address the EnCB. This was previously approved to remove 2 of 3 trees on the application. The reconsideration request seeks

permission for the removal of the Shagbark Hickory. It is located on the corner of the lot, towards the road and appears to be in good condition. The design impact on the proposed solar array was not clear on the application. Mike made a motion to vote, seconded by Norman. By a vote of 6-0 with one abstention, the reconsideration application for permission to remove the shagbark hickory on the application was denied.

There was some discussion by the board on how to improve public awareness on why the tree law exists and how it improves the community aesthetics and value. Libby will draft a letter. Rhett will work on revising the tree application to add some words on how to best apply for a tree removal and when the EnCB meets, inviting them to attend.

- EnCB liason report of Planning Board meeting  
No EnCB member was able to attend last month.

#### Discussions:

- Ulster County Environmental Management Council Meeting Report (Jim)  
No August meeting
- Plastic Bag ban, model laws, status on joining with Village – Joe B.  
There are 4 or 5 municipalities in NY that have this ban in place already.  
Joe proposed implementing a plastic bag ban in our town taking advantage of preexisting municipal law (Mamaroneck, etc.). Joe will draft a letter for our next meeting to be presented to the town board for adoption.
- Parking Lots subcommittee formation – Joe B.  
Joe passed out a letter to be read at the September 19<sup>th</sup> board meeting.  
Rhett made a motion to approve the letter. Joe intends to read and submit to the town board about parking lots and the proposed creation of a parking lot subcommittee. Norman seconded the motion. By a vote of 7-0, the motion was approved. Joe will read the letter to the town board and make them aware of the formation of this parking lot subcommittee.

#### New Business

No new business.

Norman made a motion to adjourn at 9:00.

Meeting ended.