

Town of New Paltz
Clean Water and Open Space Protection Commission (CWOSP)
Approved Minutes, Meeting of November 14, 2018, at the Community Center

Members Present: Lynn Bowdery, Richard Fiesel, John Gotto, Michael Knutson, Cara Lee, and Tom Weiner

Town Officials: None

Public present: None

Minutes taken by: Lynn Bowdery, CWOSP Commission member and Secretary

1. Meeting called to order at: 8:03 PM by Co-chairman John Gotto

2. Public comments: None.

3. Approval of CWOSP budget proposal to the Town Board for 2019: Michael Knutson moved to notify the Town Board that the CWOSP Commission supports the Town budget for CWOSP as proposed. Richard Fiesel seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

4. Membership issues: Kevin Borden has told John Gotto that he is resigning from the CWOSP Commission. With Kevin's resignation, there are only 6 members left now. Since there are supposed to be 11 members on the Commission, 6 members are required to be present at a meeting in order to constitute a quorum. There has not been a quorum present for our August, September and October meetings due to unavoidable absences and to the inability to fill the open positions on the Commission. Recruiting ideas were discussed. John Gotto brought up the idea of reducing the Commission membership to 7. With 7 members, 4 would make a quorum, a more achievable number. Michael Knutson moved that we recommend to the Town Board that the membership of the CWOSP Commission be reduced from 11 to 7 due to the difficulty of maintaining enough members to have a quorum at meetings. Tom Weiner seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

5. Discussion of CWOSP documents policy: Lynn Bowdery and Cara Lee have been thinking about where the documents produced by the CWOSP Commission should be kept, and in what form: Paper or digital. We have minutes and agendas, landowner applications, ratings documents, public documents such as the Open Space Plan, and other documents that might be of historical interest. Cara suggested that we make an appointment to have a conversation with the Town Clerk about the Town's policies regarding the documents of its committees and commissions. We will start to work on this in January 2019.

6. Future meeting dates: Cara Lee moved that we not have a meeting in December. Lynn Bowdery seconded the motion. All voted in favor. There are no applications before the Commission at present.

7. Report of delegates to the Solar Law Committee: Cara Lee reported that the Solar Law Committee had a meeting on. Cara will be chairing the committee and Ted Nitza is co-chair. Meeting dates have been set and the committee has targeted May by which to have a solar law to recommend to the Town for adoption. It would regulate all tiers of solar development in the Town.

8. Adjournment: John Gotto declared the meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM. All agreed.

Our next meeting will be January 9, 2019.