

**Town of New Paltz**  
**Clean Water and Open Space Protection Commission (CWOSP)**  
**Approved Minutes, Meeting of May 13, 2015, at the Community Center**

**Members Present:** Brad Barclay, Kevin Borden, Lynn Bowdery, Marion DuBois, Richard Fiesel, Marty Irwin, Cara Lee, Doug McBride, Seth McKee

**Town Officials:** Susan Zimet, Supervisor, Town of New Paltz; Dan Torres, Town of New Paltz Board member

**Public present:** Mike Lillis, Michael Zierler, Trina Greene; three New Paltz High School students participating in the PIGLETS class (We did not get them to write down their names- the crew of four are Steven Branche, Dylan Johnson, Chris Baker and Joey Saladino, one of whom was not there)

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

**1. Meeting called to order at:** 7:07 PM by Chairman Marty Irwin

**2. Public Comments:** No public comments were made.

**3. Acknowledge Supporters:** Mike Lillis talked a bit about his daughter Bridget's passion and interest in the Mill Brook Preserve, and of his wife Julie's role in a Friends of Mill Brook Preserve group.

**4. Mill Brook Preserve:** The Preserve's history was reviewed for those present who were new to the idea. Seth McKee and Michael Zierler initiated the drive to plan it. The three young men involved in the Participation in Government, Literature, Economics for Today's Students (PIGLETS) program who were attending have cleaned up the trail from behind Duzine into the Town's parcel "Sunset Ridge", which will be the core of Mill Brook Preserve (MBP). Trina Greene, a resident of Woodland Pond, elucidated some of the concerns Woodland Pond residents have about MBP adjacent to, and possibly including some of, the Woodland Pond property: trash, theft of residents' possessions (a canoe had been stolen), fires, vagrancy. She asked if there would be patrols. The group went over the properties already in hand, and potentially in hand, that would comprise the Preserve. Mike Lillis mentioned a potential water quality issue from an old dump on one of the properties. Mike offered to clean it up if he had the use of a dump truck.

Marty Irwin said that we are at a point where we can apply to the state for grant funding to put in trails, signage, kiosks, benches. When asked by Supervisor Zimet if the properties had to be in hand before grants could be applied for, Marty said that we can even apply for acquisition funding. Cara Lee added that a grant could fund a detailed development plan- the plan we have as a basis for funding requests is a bare outline, which we got by email.

Seth McKee said that the Village should have a contract of sale to apply for a land acquisition grant. A grant could have money for design, trailheads, bridges, structures. Brad Barclay reminded the group that any building, such as a boardwalk or bridge, in a wetland will require a permit from the DEC. Cara Lee added that the plan could include a phased-in trail map, perhaps an engineering plan for bridges, bog bridges, parking areas, handicapped accessibility, identifying environmentally sensitive areas-- an engineering plan with detail to enable more realistic cost estimates.

There will be a CFA (Consolidated Funding Application) Workshop Friday May 29th at SUNY. It could help us find what category MBP would fit best. Marty Irwin and Cara Lee will attend.

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Michael Zierler mentioned that the MBP Plan that was adopted was a general plan, an initial starting point.

Brad Barclay said that there are Green Infrastructure aspects to MBP, and there are grants relating to Green Infrastructure, too.

Susan Zimet said that the Town's Grants Writer was not officially on the job yet, pending the completion of another grant application.

Cara Lee knows a good grants writer, perhaps we could get him to write a MBP grant. She will contact him.

Susan Zimet said we could ask Dave Clouser, the Town Engineer, to look over the plan and give a cost estimate.

Marty Irwin suggested that there should be an Intermunicipal Agreement to spell out how the two owners of the land would work together. He suggested having a committee to get the applications for grants done. Cara Lee, Mike or Julie Lillis, Marty Irwin, Michael Zierler, and Seth McKee and others will be the committee.

Kevin Borden suggested that there be a line item in a grant for technology-- media and publicity.

Richard Fiesel said that Town and Village officials should have responses ready to deal with any pushback on the costs to take the land out of the tax base, costs to maintain the Preserve. It was mentioned that the Town parcel is already out of the tax base.

It was also brought up that Peter Bienstock had said that he would make a good faith effort to raise \$35,000 to develop the Preserve.

**5. Wallkill Watershed Alliance:** Marty Irwin attended the conference at SUNY. There will be another meeting to follow up on the conference on June 4 at Village Hall. He shared information about other watershed-related upcoming events.

**6. Review and Approve Minutes:** Clarifications were made about who was at the April meeting, and the minutes were corrected.

**Motion:** Marty Irwin moved to accept the April 9 Minutes as amended.

Richard Feisel seconded the motion.

All voted in favor.

**7. Other Business:** None

**Motion:** At 8:21 Marty Irwin moved that the Commission go into executive session. The complete resolution is attached below. The motion was seconded by Doug McBride. All present voted in favor.

Note: the three high school students were no longer in attendance, nor was Trina Greene. No votes were taken during the executive session.

**Motion:** At 8:30, Brad Barclay moved to close the executive session.

Cara Lee seconded the motion.

All voted in favor.

**8. New Business:** None

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**9. Personnel:** Not discussed

**10. Adjournment:** Rich Fiesel moved that the meeting be adjourned. Brad Barclay seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. The Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

**Date for Next Meeting:** June 10, 2015

Executive Session Resolution follows on page 3--

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**RESOLUTION**

May 13, 2015

Motion Made By: Marty Irwin

Seconded By: Doug McBride

Time @ Vote/Start: 8:21 PM

Motion to End By: Brad Barclay

Seconded By: Cara Lee

Time @ Close: 8:30 PM

**At a Meeting**, duly called for this date,

**Be It RESOLVED** that the Commission shall go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a potential land for the Town to acquire an interest in, disclosure of which would affect the value thereof.

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstained</u>
Barclay, Brad	<u>X</u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
Borden, Kevin	<u>X</u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
Bowdery, Lynn	<u>X</u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
DuBois, Marion	<u>X</u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
Fiesel, Rich	<u>X</u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
Gotto, John	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>    </u>
Irwin, Marty	<u>X</u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
Lee, Cara	<u>X</u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
McBride, Doug	<u>X</u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
McKee, Seth	<u>X</u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
Moore, Dennis	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>    </u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>

**The Motion is: PASSED      ~~REJECTED~~**