

New Paltz Community Preservation Fund Advisory Board
Minutes of the meeting of April 27, 2021

Present: Cara Lee, Neil Bettez, John Orfitelli, John Gotto, Ingrid Haeckel, Jim DeLaune, Mike Domitrovits, Peter Ferrante

Absent: Kathy Preston

Call to Order: Cara called the meeting to order at 7:03

Minutes: The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 23rd meeting. John Gotto asked that the minutes make a distinction between John G(otto) and John (O)rfitelli going forward. Jim moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by John G, and approved by all.

RETT Update: John O reported that the first receipts of the Real Estate Transfer tax have been received. February yielded no receipts, and the March receipts were \$14,673. There were eleven transactions and nine qualified for the tax.

Review of New Paltz Farmland Preservation Plan: Cara gave a presentation on the highlights of the Farmland Preservation Plan.

Scenic Hudson Land Trust: Cari Watkins-Bates and Carli Fraccarolli presented on the Scenic Hudson Land Trust's mission and program. Their land conservation program revolves around purchase of land and easements, working with partners and leveraging public and private funds.

New Business: Millbrook Preserve – Cara presented a map showing an area adjacent to the Millbrook Preserve that is slated for single family home development. The subdivision leaves a steep ravine and streambed of about 9 acres connected to Millbrook Preserve undeveloped. Cara and Jim will have a conversation with the developer about that portion of the property.

New Business: County Auction Parcels – Four parcels totaling about 50 acres off Ohioville Road are up for auction by the county. It was suggested that New Paltz request they be transferred to the town. A formal request will be made. If the county requires purchase, rather than transfer, the Board will consider recommending their purchase by the Town. There was a brief discussion about creating a wetland reserve in this part of town to accept and hold donated easements.

Next Agenda: Cara will invite Christie DeBoer from the Wallkill Valley Land Trust to meet with the Board in May. The Board will take a closer look at the build-out analysis conducted in 2007, considering the priorities of the Community Preservation Plan.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cara Lee