



Town of New Paltz Environmental Conservation Board
Annual Report of Activities
2021

Members: Ingrid Haeckel (Chair resigned April), Richard Whitney (Chair), Hope Nitza (resigned September), Susan Stessin (resigned October), Rose Rudnitski, Jonathan Schwartz, Kenji Tierney, Ted Nitza, Jim Littlefoot, Chris Beadle (joined November)

Liaisons: Julie Seyfert-Lillis (Town Board), Amanda Gotto (Planning Board), Janelle Peotter (Climate Smart)

Much of the disruption from COVID-19 that occurred in 2020 remained during 2021. Meetings were held remotely via Zoom with exceptions in August, September and October when hybrid meetings were conducted with only a few members attending in person.

Project Reviews

The EnCB reviewed all submissions by the planning board and provided written comments when warranted. Sent liaisons to bi-monthly Planning Board meetings as needed.

- Subdivision for 192 Mountain Rest Road
- TransHudson vegetated natural buffer
- Subdivision for 525 Albany Post Road

The EnCB attended site visits to Homeland Towers on Jansen Road and 525 Albany Post Road

Chapter 130 – Tree Law

EnCB approved three tree permits in 2021

100 Plains Road – approved with recommendation to replant native trees

51 Old Rte 299 – approved with no comments

293 Plutarch Road – approved with recommendation to replant native trees

Environmental Policy Research

Critical Environmental Areas (CEAs) were presented to the Town Board at this time only 2 areas The Shawangunk Ridge and Plutarch Woods are still under consideration for designation.

Public Outreach Chapter 139 – Wetlands and Watercourse Protection Laws

The EnCB worked to create and distribute a Wetlands Brochure to advise and inform the public on the wetlands law in New Paltz.

Natural Resource Inventory

Is up and running on the town website. It is a valuable resource for not only the EnCB, but for anyone looking to learn more about New Paltz's natural resources.

Additional Activities

Maintained GIS software and data on the Town B-fund Laptop

Received approval for renewal of a low-cost (\$100) GIS license from ESRI's Conservation Program

Representation on other Committees

Jim Littlefoot represents the Town on the Ulster County Environmental Management Council

Ted Nitza Chairs the Village of New Paltz Environmental Policy Board

Ted Nitza and Janelle Peotter are part of the Ad Hoc committee for Solar on the town landfill

Janelle Peotter is the Climate Smart Coordinator for the Town and Village of New Paltz, a member of the New Paltz Bicycle Pedestrian Committee, is a board member of the Climate Action Committee, and is the Chair for the New Paltz Climate Smart Task Force

Susan Stessin is the Town Historian and Chair of the New Paltz Historical Society

Annual Report to be approved at January 19th's, 2022 meeting

Respectfully Submitted to the Town Board and NYSDEC Commissioner Basil Seggos

Richard Whitney
Chair, Town of New Paltz Environmental Conservation Board
PO Box 550
New Paltz, NY 12561
encb@townofnewpaltz.org