**Town of New Paltz Environmental Conservation Board Meeting**

November 13, 2019

Location: Town of New Paltz Community Center

Meeting called to order at 7:37

**EnCB Participants (Quorum):** J Ted Nitza substituting as Chair, Janelle Peotter, Susan Stessin, Jonathan Schwartz, Rose Rudnitski, Rich Whitney, R. Kenji Tierney

Amanda Gatto for the Town of New Paltz Planning Board

Julie Seifert-Lillis, Town Board

**Approval of Minutes** of October 16, 2019 postponed until the next meeting

**Planning Board Report:** Amanda Gotto

1. It is possible that the Friedlander will ask for us to waive the tree survey We want to know why. They have not shown all of the trees on the property in their drawing. Some violations of the previous code occurred during the previous owner. We need to visit the site because it is a designated wetlands, but it doesn’t appear on their map. They may need to have a wetlands inspection.
2. This is an area that will be heavily developed and trafficked. Police and Fire Department are moving there. Their EAF indicates that there is a designated wetlands that is regulated. We do not have a full, detailed tree survey. They have requested a waiver of the tree survey.
3. Joe’s property owner would like to sell to Hudson Valley Credit Union.
4. ShopRite wants to expand. They will be required to add charging stations to expanded parking.

**Discussion Items**

1. **McDonald’s:** Discussion ensued on the unsafe egress from McDonald’s. The Town had asked the owner of the mall to allow McDonald’s to egress through the traffic light for safety. The owner refused to cooperate.
2. **Plastic Bag Law:** We have a short window to make the Town of New Paltz law more stringent than the County and NY State Laws. We would propose a charge for dry cleaning bags and ban heavy plastic reusable bags in addition to the current law, set to be effective in March 2020. In order for the town to make these additions, we must pass a local law before next March. Susan Stessin agreed to continue to try to contact Jen Metzger for her support.
3. **Clearwater Landfill Solar Project:** There was intense discussion on the clear cutting of trees adjacent to the land fill in order to maximize the acreage and wattage for the town and the contracted company to reap the highest benefits. Rose expressed grave concern about clear cutting trees in the Thruway buffer and said that she did not draft a letter from the EnCB because she was confused at the number of acres that were to be clear cut. Jonathan offered to write a letter on behalf of EnCB regarding the solar project. Janelle gave a brief CSC update before the end of the meeting. There was further discussion without a quorum after the meeting.

**Meeting was adjourned at 9:50**

**Planning Board EnCB Observers**

November 14th Yoni

November 23rd Rose Rudnitski

Respectfully submitted, Rose Rudnitski