

DRAFT MINUTES

Town of New Paltz
Environmental Conservation Board
August 5, 2015
Community Center
7:30 pm

Participants: Mike D, Libby, Laura, Rhett, Jim, Joe, Mike M
Also present is Dan Torres, Town Board member

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m.

Agenda:

Public Comment: No public present.

Review/Approval of July Meeting Minutes: Mike D made a motion to approve the minutes. Joe seconded. All in favor with one abstention.

Planning Board Projects Status:

- 25 North Ohioville Road – Site plan for Bloom, landscaping business. Adding gravel driveway and parking spaces. Neighborhood is zoned for light industrial use. No EnCB comment.
- 320 Route 32 N. – Area Variance before ZBA. Road frontage less than 100 feet; want access to lot from Route 32 instead of Mountain View Rd. EnCB recommended allowing entrance from Mountain View Road as it would be safer than from Rte 32.
- 70 N. Putt Corners Road – Area Variance before ZBA: Expansion in back abutting Thruway, want setback variance to add handicapped parking in front. No comment.
- 1 High Pasture Road – Area Variance before ZBA: fence height variance, owners requesting 6 ft instead of 4 ft. No environmental concern seen. No comment.
- Tree Removal Application – 1 Pinecrest Road. Trees were damaged by power company topping. No EnCB comment.
- CVS proposal; traffic concerns analysis results/additional environmental concerns. Laura will draft a letter stating our concerns based on the data which show that traffic is already beyond design capacity during peak hours at that intersection and on HW Dubois Dr.

Discussions:

- Letters to Editor: Millbrook Preserve (Rhett): Joe made a motion, seconded by Mike M, to send letter as is to the New Paltz Times. Motion passed with all in favor.
- Home Energy Audit (Joe): Public service information letter. Reminding people that the free home energy assessment program still exists and giving Mike Courtney's contact info, etc.
- No Idling law recommendation (Laura): Libby made a motion, seconded by Joe, for Laura to send letter as written to the Town Board. Motion passed 7-0.
- Ulster County EMC Meeting Report (Jim): Kingston spent 500,000 got grant from DEC, NYS and others. Going to build 4 megawatts of solar power. Payback will be 3 yrs. All streetlights in the city (LED) and all govt buildings will be off the grid. Also have installed electric car charging stations.
- MS4 designation coordination – Chris Marx from Highway Dept. is coordinator (Joe): Joe followed up with Dave Clouser and Chris Marx and will continue to follow up with both of them on stormwater law, etc. We can also get help from the people at the DEC. Joe will do a follow-up letter to everyone involved, listing ways and resources to implement.
- Lack of response from Town Board to our suggestion for grant writer (Joe): Dan brought it up at a recent Town Board meeting that we were looking for a response.
- Floodplain district laws – Proposed amendments: Property owners are looking to roll back strict regulations on building and repairing. Some of the more extreme provisions could be amended to address the community's concerns, but core provisions need to be preserved, and residents need to understand the purpose of the laws. Mike M. and Libby will work together to propose changes.

A motion was made by Jim to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mike M. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.