**Town of New Paltz Environmental Conservation Board**

January 8, 2020

Community Center

**Participants:**

Ingrid Haeckel (Chair), Janelle Peotter, Rose Rudnitski, Susan Stessin, Rich Whitney, R. Kenji Tierney

**Called to order:** 7:38pm

**Approval of December Minutes: Approved** (5 approvals)

**Public Comment:** None

**Discussion Items:**

Friedlander Site Visit: Susan Stessin & Janelle Peotter

 - Questions about the wetland & stream on property and whether man-made or existed before creation of the Thruway

 - Waiting on wetlands inspector's report

 - Concerns about landscaping plan for the property

**Planning Board Liaison Schedule:**

 Jan 13 - No representation

 Jan 27 - Rich Whitney

 Feb 10 - Rose Rudnitski

 Feb 24 - Susan Stessin

Note: Request to submit PB report as soon as possible after attending the meeting to allow EnCB to be able to respond to issues in front of the PB

**Announcements**:

Request to consider annual training (specifically on land use policies)

 - DEC webinars are archived

**Discussion Items:**

Critical Environmental Areas proposal update (Ingrid Haeckel)

                 -  Letter to the editor submitted to New Paltz Times

                 - Will present at the next Town Board meeting (1/16/20)

Climate Smart update (Janelle Peotter)

                 - Submitted for Bronze Certification for the Town & Village of New Paltz

                 - Received the Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) $35,000 grant

                 - A lot of education & awareness throughout 2019

Plastic Bag Updates (Susan)

 - Kayla Montanya (DEC), after meeting with Tax Council, relayed that the state plastic bag law will supersede all local laws. There will be no grandfathering of local laws.

 - A letter will be composed to see if the law can be amended

Bee City USA (Rose)

 - Concerns about a plant and flower budget and personnel are necessary to become a Bee City

New Member Search: Upcoming opening during the summer

**Meeting adjourned**: 8:46pm

Respectfully submitted by R. Kenji Tierney