**Town of New Paltz Environmental Conservation Board**

**Joint Meeting with the Village of New Paltz Environmental Policy Board**

**March 10, 2020, 6:30pm**

**Village Hall**

**Meeting Minutes (Prepared by Fiona, edited by Ted)**

**Participants:  Ingrid Haeckel and Susan Stessin (by phone), Janelle Peotter, Rich Whitney, Jonathan Schwartz, Ted Nitza**

**Public Comment: None**

**Approval of EnCB February Minutes: Approved with some corrections from Ingrid**

**Planning Board Referrals:**

* Homeland Towers – cell tower proposal
  + Balloon test postponed to March 14th
    - Rachel wants to see picture of premium fake tree
* Mid Hudson Sporting Clays
  + Letter urging restoration of wetland (road built through it) - Ingrid
* PB Liaison schedule:
  + March 23: Rose
  + April 13, 27 -- ? Ted 13th, Rich 27th

**Discussion Items:**

* Critical Environmental Areas proposal update (Ingrid)
  + Public hearing continues, meeting to address planning board concerns TBD
  + Will continue (march 19th) Ingrid and Jonathan collaborating on approach
* Community Preservation update (Ingrid)
  + Real-estate transfer tax can be implemented to fund preservation
    - Referendum (needs majority) ballot measure in 2020 is goal
    - Ulster County is authorized
    - Committee meeting since January
    - Passed open space bond in 2007-ish
    - Needs a draft plan
    - Need more volunteers (March 28th workshop)
    - Do a mailing survey (allocate up to $627 from Town ECB) (Motion by Ingrid passes)
* Tributary 13
  + Riverkeeper presented 2019 sampling results. Still unclear where contamination is coming from
  + Last year town applied for grant to study septic system relief in area but we did not get it (should reapply)
  + Rachel: aim for stewardship not stakeholdership
  + Will table and discuss later
* Natural Resources Inventory (Amanda)
  + Seeking two volunteers (check mark)
* County Environmental Management Council update (Jim) - tabled
* Climate Smart update (Janelle)
  + Still not bronze-certified though we have the pts. (should be soon)
  + To get to silver: building energy audits, fleet analysis/modification, power purchasing agreements
  + Climate Smart book club
* Plastic Bag Ban (Susan)
  + Woodstock passed a resolution sounds more expansive
  + “rethinking disposables”
  + thinking we should try it and see if it is challenged
* Bee City USA (Rose)
* Single-use plastic and anti-idling regulations (tabled)

**Announcements:**

Wallkill River Watershed Alliance Stormwater/MS4 Training - March 4, 9am-12pm, Kingston

* Sounds like they are planning on doing more

Wetland Conservation webinar – March 18, 12-1pm

Community Preservation Fund workshop – March 28, 9-12 (TBD), New Paltz