## Town of New Paltz 52 Clearwater Road, PO Box 550 New Paltz, NY 12561



For Release: Immediately (5/6/20) Contact: Neil Bettez – 845-255-0604x1 Cara Lee – 845-802-4082

## **New Paltz Creates Community Preservation Committee**

The New Paltz Town Board has created an ad-hoc committee to develop a Community Preservation Plan (CPP) for the Town of New Paltz. The Community Preservation Plan will combine and update the Town's Open Space Plan, Farmland Protection Plan and Historic Resource Survey and will include new geospatial information that has been collected in more recent years. The Plan will be a tool to help guide open space and historic preservation activities in the future. The committee includes members of the Town Environmental Conservation Board (EnCB), Clean Water Open Space Protection Commission (CWOSP), Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) and other interested volunteers.

The Town Board has directed the committee to continue work already underway to develop a Community Preservation Plan that will identify New Paltz's open space and historic preservation priorities. The committee will inform the public about those priorities and will make recommendations about potential sources of funding and the opportunity to participate in New York State's Community Preservation Act, sponsored by NYS Senator Jen Metzger in 2019.

"As we pull together all of the information about our unique landscape and historic properties in one place, it is very clear how these features are fundamental to our community's character and quality of life for residents and visitors," said Neil Bettez, New Paltz Town Supervisor. "Maintaining these aspects of our community is essential to the health and economic future of the town," he added.

"Despite social distancing required during Covid-19, we are gathering public input to the plan by using a community survey. We have also requested that people submit photos of favorite places and scenes for inclusion in the Plan," said Julie Seyfert-Lillis, Town Board member and executive director of the Millbrook Preserve. "Materials about progress on the Community Preservation Plan are also available on the Town website," she added. Photos can be submitted to <a href="mailto:newpaltzcpp@gmail.com">newpaltzcpp@gmail.com</a>