

## **Town of Saugerties Conservation Advisory Commission**

Meeting minutes for March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Present: M. Wrolsen, E. Shafer, L. Thornton, S. Thorpe, C. Tienken, S. Guerin, G. Marzec, B. Sawchuk, J. Randall and J. Barbour

Absent: none

Convened: 7:00 pm, Saugerties Town Hall.

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- L. Thornton corrected the name of Jeremy Shaller in the draft minutes for the February CAC meeting. J. Randall made a motion to approve the minutes with the change, seconded by J. Barbour, all in favor.
- J. Barbour brought up some issues regarding hydrofracking waste used as a deicer. In some cases, municipalities may be contracting for deicer and unknowingly getting hydrofracking fluid waste.
- E. Shafer attended a conference regarding New York State water laws. One of the main points was that current laws may still have loopholes. Details will follow at the next meeting.
- Leeanne provided a copy of Section 6.20 – Water Resources Protection in the town zoning law. This section has wording that pertains to hydrofracking.
- Some discussion on the fracking issue followed.
- Leeanne brought up the recent proposal for the sports complex at Cantine Field. The owner would like a 99 year lease on public property. The “alienation” of public property has to go through a local development authority and also needs approval at the state level.
- B. Sawchuk asked the CAC members to review S. Guerin’s draft letter regarding the alienation of public land on Patterson Road, as well as recommendations to the Town Board to be on record supporting actions against turbid releases in the Esopus Creek. Leeanne provided copies for all to review.
- Spider has been working on two educational brochures for the Open Space Plan, and he will provide copies for review before the next meeting.
- Leeanne provided information on revitalizing Hudson River frontage. A workshop will be held at Columbia-Greene Community College on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012.
- J. Randall stated that RCAP requested that we send a letter to the editor regarding support of the Farm Bill reauthorization, so that the bill does not expire on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012. They provided a draft format that Josh will forward for our review.
- C. Tienken stated that the Palisades Interstate Park Commission has posted signs at Bristol Beach regarding forbidden uses. Spider will look into the reason for the new signs.
  - o A spirited discussion ensued regarding the possibility of developing the park potential at Bristol Beach.
  - o Steve made a motion that the CAC reopen the possibility of looking at the potential of Bristol Beach. The motion was seconded and approved by all.
  - o Cliff will bring in his material on this topic from when it was first explored several years ago.

As there were no further topics for discussion, our meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.