

Town of Saugerties Conservation Advisory Commission

Meeting minutes for August 20, 2015

Present: L. Thornton, C. Tienken Sr., C. Tienken Jr., M. O'Donnell, M. Wrolsen, B. Sawchuk, G. Marzec, S. Guerin, and K. Benson

Absent: R. Gehring

Convened: 7:00 pm, Saugerties Town Hall

- The May minutes were approved on a motion by Mary and seconded by Ken. All in favor. G. Marzec and M. Wrolsen abstained since they were not present for that meeting.

- The June minutes were approved on a motion by C. Tienken Sr. and seconded by Ken. All in favor.

- Ticks and Lyme disease - C. Tienken Sr. provided information on possible control measures. There was discussion about the issue and various control measures.

- K. Benson contacted a local pesticide applicator (Craig Thomas). They have an application regimen and provided Ken with cost estimates of these treatments.
- B. Sawchuk stated that there were six known diseases that ticks can transmit.
- Cliff Sr. suggested a public service announcement by some governmental agency to increase public awareness and possible treatments.
- G. Marzec mentioned that a tick researcher at the Institute of Ecosystems Studies in Millbrook may have an immunity to Lyme disease and that a vaccine may be studied in the future. Gerry also mentioned that mouse nesting material is being treated with pesticide so that the ticks are killed when the material is brought back by the mice.
- All agreed that the issue of tick control was out of the purview of the CAC.

- Bristol Beach - Cliff Sr. called NYS Assemblyman Pete Lopez's office twice but hasn't received a call back. Cliff suggested sending another letter, but Steve said that we need a different approach. There was some brief discussion about alternate approaches.

- UCRRA- Leeanne discussed the situation regarding the Town Transfer Station and the County Resource and Recovery Agency (RRA). The Town has decided not to participate in a long term contract with RRA and will come up with their own plan. The cost has increased beyond what the towns were originally told.

- Canoe Hill – Steve spoke to the Town Supervisor. A letter from the CAC will follow. Leeanne spoke to Greg Chorvas about the use of salt and also the clearing of the trail to the top (gravel road). Leeanne suggested contacting the Recreational Committee for additional information. There was some discussion regarding in-kind services and documentation of such work, as well as who authorized the trails in the area.

- Solarize Hudson Valley – Mary stated that they are ready to make a presentation. The tax incentives are set to expire, so there is a need to move on this for people that are interested. The Senior Center is not available the night of our next CAC meeting, so other dates will be checked. There was some question as to the source of funding for Solarize Hudson Valley.

Motion to adjourn by Ken and seconded by Cliff Sr. Approved by all.