

Town of Saugerties

Conservation Advisory Commission

Meeting minutes for July 17th, 2008

Present: L. Thornton, B. Sawchuk, J. Barbour, M. Wrolsen, S. Thorpe, J. Randall, E. Shafer, G. Marzec, J. Kane, Michael Zinkow (Town webmaster), Claudette Zinkow (Bldg. Dept.), Miles Putnam (guest) and Melissa Barry (Behan Associates)

Absent: A. Weeks

Convened: 7:00 pm, Saugerties Town Hall.

- This meeting was the first in a series with the Open Space Plan contractor Behan Associates. Melissa Barry from Behan led the meeting.
- A date was set for the driving tour of the Town on August 6th, 2008 at 9:00. The alternate date is the 13th. Miles Putnam will go on the tour to provide information.
- Melissa gave an overview of the work plan and the schedule. She stated that there is a need to identify stakeholders and to form focus groups.
- There will be a visioning workshop in September for public outreach.
 - Publicity will be via newspapers, radio, cable TV and the Town website.
 - The focus groups will go through important features of the Town by category (e.g. trails, natural resources).
- A brainstorming session was held to help define terms within the plan. These included:
 - Definition of open space,
 - Guidelines/principles for developing the plan,
 - Discussion of what is meant by a “sense of place”
 - Cognitive mapping (developed by Kevin Lynch) refers to nodes, districts, paths, edges and landmarks
 - Plan themes were discussed (water, historic, recreation, agriculture, wildlife protection)
- There was some misunderstanding regarding the responsible party for development of the questionnaire. The CAC group will develop it.
 - J. Randall provided some questions that were reviewed by S. Barbour and E. Shafer.
 - L. Thornton provided copies of the questions to Behan and also a copy for G. Marzec to keep on file.
- Melissa Barry asked for an e-mail list for CAC members. G. Marzec will provide this to her.
- L. Thornton asked that we review the contract with Behan and provided copies for all.
- Subsequent to the meeting, M. Barry will provide a summary of the discussions via e-mail.
- The next meeting is on August 21st, 2008 at 7:00 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at ca. 8:45 pm.