

Town of Saugerties

Conservation Advisory Commission

Meeting minutes for April 19th, 2012

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

Absent: B. Sawchuk

Convened: 7:00 pm, Saugerties Town Hall.

- J. Randall made a motion to approve the March 2012 minutes, seconded, all in favor.
- J. Barbour provided draft copies of an informational brochure he developed on biodiversity. The brochure is part of a series intended to provide educational material on the Open Space Plan. The CAC members were asked to review this and send comments by email to Spider.
- E. Shafer attended a conference regarding New York State water laws in February. At our meeting, Elizabeth provided a summary of the key points from the conference.
 - o General background of water laws
 - o Water use in natural gas and petroleum production
 - o Complying with water quality laws and regulations
 - o Extensive information is available on these topics and Elizabeth can provide copies to those that are interested.
- L. Thornton provided a summary of current issues from the Town Board
 - o Doug Meyer (Town Highway Dept) is reviewing proposals for FEMA work on storm-damaged roads.
 - o Leeanne provide a brochure on a lecture at SUNY New Paltz entitled “Extreme Energy and the Fight for Our Future”. The lecture will be given on April 23 at 6:00 pm.
 - o TV23 will be providing a workshop during the week of June 11. Other workshops will be offered in May and June.
 - o Leeanne mentioned that Peg Nau will be retiring and also mentioned the retirement of Police Chief Barbaria.
- C. Tienken brought in his documents related to Bristol Beach in 1993. Cliff provided the details of some of the efforts at that time to develop the property into a park.
 - o There was a resolution along with letters of support for the development.
 - o There was a meeting at the time, but no local officials were in attendance.
 - o More recently, NY State Assembly and Senate members Lopez and Bonacic, respectively, said that the town needs to take the first step.
- S. Guerin suggested that we write a letter to the Town Board from the CAC supporting action to take back the property from the Palisades Commission. We can also suggest floating a bill at the state level to enable this action. A motion was made, seconded and approved by all to write this letter. Steve agreed to write the draft.
- M. Wrolsen state that only one person showed up for the Emerald Ash borer presentation on March 29.
 - o The Kingston Freeman recently had front page news about the insect being found in Dutchess County.
 - o TV23 has a documentary on the stages of the ash borer and the program is shown periodically.

- Spider has maps of the current infestations in the town (before leaf cover starts).
- Cliff brought up the letter that Steve drafted from the last meeting. The letter addressed the issue of public land at Patterson Rd., and the issue of turbid releases in the Esopus Creek. The letter was reviewed and edits were recommended.

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