

# **Town of Saugerties**

## **Conservation Advisory Commission**

Meeting minutes for February 19, 2015

Present: L. Thornton, C. Tienken Sr., M. O'Donnell, M. Wrolsen, C. Tienken Jr., G. Marzec, B. Sawchuk, S. Guerin, K. Benson and Robert Gehring (appointed by the Town Board two weeks ago); John Schoomaker IV (guest)

Absent: none

Convened: 7:00 pm, Saugerties Town Hall.

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- Motion was made to approve minutes from January 2015. Seconded and approved by those present at that meeting.
  - o G. Marzec stated that all of the 2014 minutes were sent to M. Campbell and are up to date on the Town's web site.
- The Town Board sent the decision for choosing the chairperson of the CAC back to the Commission for a vote. M. O'Donnell proposed a co-chairperson which was voted down by a 7 to 2 vote by the CAC. The two candidates for chair were S. Guerin and M. O'Donnell. A written ballot was conducted with Steve receiving 5 votes, Mary receiving 3 and 1 abstained vote. The co-chair was a choice between C. Tienken Sr. and M. O'Donnell. Cliff won by a vote of 5 to 3 with one abstaining vote.
- Bristol Beach was discussed by the members. The pros and cons of introducing potential uses at this early stage were talked about., but the consensus was to first acquire the property, then work on potential site plans.
- Pilgrim Pipeline
  - o No new people before the Town Board at the last meeting.
  - o Pilgrim has not filed an actual proposal at this time.
  - o M. O'Donnell said the the pipeline is a possibility and that we need to take a stance at this time.
    - Mary provided info on some other leak statistics, actual number of jobs vs. projected, etc.
    - Stated that it's a community issue.
    - Some discussion of pros and cons by the CAC ensued.
  - o S. Guering made a motion to table the discussion until we have an actual proposal from Pilgrim. Seconded and approved by a vote of 7 to 2.
- L.Thornton stated that there is a proposal for an electric transmission line upgrade along existing corridors.
  - o C. Tienken Sr. discussed the process and the advantages to such an upgrade.
  - o Steve asked Cliff Sr. (with his experience in electric transmission) to take a look at the proposal and get back to the CAC.
- M. Wrolsen reported that at the last Planning Board meeting she attended, neighbors were complaining about blasting activity that Richter is doing on his commercial property along Route 32N. There was some discussion about this issue.
- M. O'Donnell reported that at the last meeting with the Ulster County Environmental Management Council, there is a 5 year state grant for flood control. Aaron Bennett is the coordinator.
  - o There are 9 charging stations available in the county for electric vehicles. No cost for residents to use the chargers.

- Waste reduction regarding styrofoam – propose banning single use styrofoam containers.
- The county is looking to have General Electric leave the existing clean-up equipment in place and continue dredging on the upper Hudson River.
- G. Marzec asked for clarification of Spider's position on the CAC. Leeanne stated that Spider was confirmed as an honorary member of the CAC by the Town Board. Bob Gehring was appointed to Spider's position at the last board meeting and has been appointed for one year.

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