Town of Saugerties

Conservation Advisory Commission

Meeting minutes for November 19th, 2009

Present: L. Thornton, B. Sawchuk, J. Barbour, J. Randall, and E. Schafer

S. Thorpe, G. Marzec, and M. Wrolsen.

Absent: none

Convened: 7:20 pm, Saugerties Town Hall.

- B. Sawchuk asked about the status of the Open Space Plan draft. We are currently waiting for Behan Planning to get back to us with our revisions.
 - L. Thornton stated that the CAC and CPC budgets have been cut to \$5K each, so we need to see how much the additional work for the revisions will cost.
- S. Thorpe provided copies of a map of the Potential Water Service Area and a table of corrections to the Chazen report. The PPCW (?) tabulated the existing and projected water demand from the Plattekill watershed.
- M. Wrolsen proposed writing a letter of support for Miriam Straus, the assistant to Amanda Lavalle at Ulster County's environmental agency. Ms. Straus may lose her position due to budget cuts.
- L. Thornton asked the Town Board for an additional \$1K for the budget lines for the CAC and the CPC.
- B. Sawchuk provided a summary of the combined CACs from towns throughout Ulster County held at UCCC on November 18, 2009.
 - C. Ferguson of NYSDEC has the ability to assist with obtaining money for conservation easements.
 - Brian, M. Wrolsen and J. Barbour represented Saugerties.
 - The Saugerties CAC had much to offer in the way of accomplishments!
 - Rosendale had proposed a stronger outdoor wood burner ordinance.
 - J. Barbour stated that Woodstock has a town equivalent of the SEQRA process.
- M. Wrolsen state that the recent presentation by the industrial hygienist at the Senior Center will be televised on Channel 23 on November 25th at 1:00 and 8:00.
- L. Thornton asked that the CAC members return the letters of interest they received regarding their continuation on the Commission.
- J. Randall made a motion to approve the CAC minutes from September and October. The motion was seconded and approved by all.
- Josh also made a motion to ask our liaison to get the final draft of the Open Space Plan from Behan.
 - Leanne will check with Behan to see if they need to come to another meeting and if this work is considered non-billable hours. She will also recommend January 20, 2010 as the potential date for the public hearing.
- B. Sawchuk asked if we could suggest clarifications to the current sign ordinance.
 - Brian gave examples of current loopholes that need to be addressed.
 - The Building Dept. needs additional staffing to address problems that eventually end up as requests for variances at the Zoning Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.