

# Saugerties Conservation Advisory Commission

April 21, 2022

Via ZOOM

## MINUTES

### II. CAC REGULAR BUSINESS

**Meeting start:** 6:10 pm.

**Present:** Mary O'Donnell, Elizabeth Shafer, Mike Harkavy, Skip Arthur, Leslie Surprenant, Kathleen Gray, Mary Anne Wrolsen, Nicole Roskos, Jim Mays,

**Approval of March 17, 2022 Minutes** – approved.

**Bee City USA** – Presentation by Kate Hagerman was on agenda. Not presented due to absence of presenter. Liaison Zack Horton is following up with town on required Resolution of Support.

**Recommendation to Town Board - Comprehensive Plan Goal 6A** – Reviewed and discussed draft memorandum to town board regarding *open space* definition. CAC approved memo with addition of language regarding ecosystem services.

**ACTION ITEMS:** Leslie will provide suggested language on ecosystem services and Mary O will send memorandum to Town Board.

**NYS Association of Conservation Commissions (NYSACC) Membership** – Discussed and all agreed CAC would join NYSACC. Cost is \$75 annually for municipal organization. NYSACC is a not-for-profit established by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation in 1971 to coordinate government-led conservation and environmental programs and to assist municipal governments through networking, leadership and technical assistance. Membership includes government officials, environmentalists, students, and citizens.

**New York – New Jersey Watershed Protection Act** – HR 4677 (Tonko, D- NY20) Recommend Town Letter of Support – Discussed and all agreed to request the Town of Saugerties send a letter of support for HR 4677. This bill requires the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to establish the New York-New Jersey Watershed Restoration Program, a non-regulatory program, to coordinate restoration and protection activities among government entities and conservation partners throughout the watershed. The bill also establishes the New York-New Jersey Watershed Restoration Grant Program, a voluntary grant and technical assistance program, to provide competitive matching grants to certain entities to implement restoration and protection activities for the watershed.

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**Town Planning Board** – No report

**Town Board Liaison Report** – Zach had a work commitment and was unable to participate during the entire meeting. He emailed the following: “Potential in-person meeting with Village officials next Tuesday (26th) at 10:00am regarding the harvester; perhaps this can be discussed during the meeting to gauge the interest and availability of anyone who may be interested in attending. Building department expected to tune into meeting tonight to discuss perspectives on NYS Stretch. Meeting with attorney on 5/2 to discuss Bee City Resolution. It will be on following TB Agenda after finalized.”

**Announcements** – Skip Arthur reported that the Esopus Creek Conservancy is applying for a Greenway grant for bridge repair and needs letters of support to apply for grant. CAC members approved sending a letter of support for the grant. Nicole R – Reported that she has not received a response to her proposed tree preservation policy she sent to the town planning board.

**Adjournment:** 6:58 pm.