

# Saugerties Conservation Advisory Commission

March 21, 2019

6:00 pm

Town Hall Rear Conference Room

## MINUTES

**Attendees:** Mary O'Donnell, Vivian Beatrice, Mary Anne Wrolsen, Leslie Surprenant, Patti Kelly, Skip Arthur, Mike Harkavy, Janet Asiain, Mike Mac Isaac, Steve Wehr, Carole Furman,

**Guests:** Kathleen Gray, Vernon Benjamin, Mary McNamara, Nicole Roskos, Ray Bergen, Anna Bergen, Larry Ulifik. Mark Smith via phone.

**Guest Presenter:** Melinda Herzog, Healthy Communities Program Leader for Cornell Cooperative Extension. Melinda informed the task force that she will work with the town on Climate Smart Resiliency Planning. Melinda will look at the Community Plan Checklist over the next few months and work to prepare a Resiliency Plan for the town.

**The Climate Action Plan** was discussed. Vernon commented on the great work done by Vivian in preparing graphs. The action plan must be approved by the Town Board no later than May 15. Mary stated that she will need all the text for the CAP by April 1 so the document can be laid out and designed in time for it to be posted for public comment. Patti announced that the CAPI will host a meeting at the Esopus Town Hall on Wednesday, April 10 at 6 pm with representatives from the different municipalities participating.

**An Update on the Go Smart Go Green Fair** included the following:

- Mark Smith participated via the phone and provided an update on vendors' participation.
- Steve W. has 4 vendors on the website, but Mark S believes there are 10 signed up and will send Steve vendor names to add to the website
- Steve W. asked if the charging station would be at the Senior Center by May 4<sup>th</sup>
- Janet A and Susan M are working on a Reduce, Reuse, Refuse Table.
- Mary M. reported that the recycling coordinator from UCCRA will discuss recycling at the event.
- Larry Ulifik provided information regarding refrigerants stating they are number one in Drawdown as GHG emitters. He stated that Central Hudson gives you \$50 for a working refrigerator. Larry will present information on the Drawdown Project at the Go Smart Go Green Fair
- Leslie S. mentioned that the DEC has a quarterly magazine, *Conservationists for Kids* and will inquire about obtaining copies for the fair. She will also inquire if the high school Ecology Club wishes to participate at the fair.
- Mike H, Skip A, Steve and Carla W will help with room set up.
- Mary Anne will work at the sign-in table.
- Refreshments – Skip will take care of cookie; Mary M will provide the beverage.
- A discussion regarding a raffle prize followed. Carole will ask Central Hudson to donate energy-efficient products for a raffle basket.
- Janet will handle publicity.
- Mark Smith will provide flyers; Mary O. will provide 3-ups as handouts.
- Mary Anne volunteered to distribute flyers to several locations including the transfer station.

**Regular CAC business began at 7:30 p.m.**

**The Approval of Minutes** was unanimous.

**Old Business** included the following:

- Aquatic Invasive Species – Town Supervisor and Village Mayor will discuss what they want to do. Then Stan O’Dell will formally be part of the committee.
- Vernon reported that Supervisor Shannon Harris of Esopus would like to discuss co-ownership of a harvesting machine with the town.
- The village is looking at another suction-type harvester (non-driver assisted).
- Leslie S and Mary M will look into this last item.

### **Reports**

Town Board Liaison Mike M. reported:

- County CSC meeting took place on 2/25/19.
- There was a memorializing resolution regarding 5G adopted last night (3/20/19).
- There was a question about a solar array at the ice arena which is deemed problematic.
- The Town has already made a deal with East Light Partners, and can purchase up to 40% of the solar power that will be available at the solar farm created at the former landfill.

Planning Board Member Carole F. reported:

- East Light Partners and Blue Stone Solar have proceeded through the Planning Board process.
- Supervisor Costello is discussing the possible formation of a Community Choice Aggregation with East Light, Blue Stone, and other local solar providers; this is a new energy model in which the municipalities create a management entity for all the customers within the community at considerable potential energy savings.

Mary M. made the following announcements:

- There will be a June 14 from meeting 10:00 a.m. to noon to discuss Ashokan release plans at the CCE office in Kingston.
- There will be a meeting on April 23 at the Catskill Community Center, Main Street to discuss Waste Incineration about where to dump toxic ash. She suggested that representatives from Saugerties attend the meeting. There is also the possibility of new waste incinerator in Greene County. The DEC is not encouraging this.
- Ulster County is also discussing possible new solid waste solutions, perhaps even involving a landfill.

**Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.