

## **Town of Saugerties Conservation Advisory Commission**

Meeting minutes for September 19, 2013

Present: B. Sawchuk, S. Guerin, L. Thornton, M. Wrolsen, E. Shafer, G. Marzec, C. Tienken, M. O'Donnell, J. Barbour and J. Randall

Absent: None

Guests: Paul Economos (Town of Saugerties), Amanda Lavallo (Ulster Co.) and Amanda Wolfson (Ulster Co.)

Convened: 6:30 pm, Saugerties Town Hall.

---

- A. Wolfson and A. Lavallo from Ulster County provided a concise and informative presentation on the county's MS4 program.. Members of the CAC had several questions along with some discussion.
  - o P. Economos stated that there are a number of websites that have information on the MS4 program. These include the County's and the Town's web sites.
  - o There were handouts for these on-line resources, along with mapping resources, an educational outreach info sheet, and an Ulster County "Creek Week" brochure.
  - o A. Lavallo stated that the towns that have an MS4 plan and outreach program are eligible for reduced rates on flood insurance for residents.
- A motion was made by J. Randall to approve the minutes from last month. The motion was seconded and approved by all present at the August meeting.
- J. Barbour had some comments about the content of the July minutes:
  - o The status of the Scenic Byway connection to the Town of Hunter. This was resolved at the August meeting.
  - o The status of the letter of support from the Esopus Creek Conservancy regarding the town's acquisition of Bristol Beach. Spider is a member of the Conservancy's board and will ask about the status.
  - o Clarification about the inoculation of ash trees in the Town of Woodstock.
- M. Wrolsen stated that she filmed presentations for Creek Week, including a demo on gear cleaning for the prevention of invasive species. Mary Anne will also be filming a meeting on the Emerald Ash Borer on October 28, 2013.
- E. Shafer asked about the potential to use an aquatic harvester from surrounding towns to remove invasive water chestnuts. There was some discussion about the merits and detriments of mechanical harvesting.
- Elizabeth also mentioned that there may be environmental consequences of locating a casino in a particular area. Spider will check on this before the current NY state ballot in November.
- S. Guerin stated that the letter regarding the Town's potential acquisition of Bristol Beach has gone out to our state officials. They see the value of the Town obtaining the site and developing it via available grants.
- M. O'Donnell asked if the CAC wants to go on record requesting that the NYS Dept. of Health include protection of the Lower Esopus in the Filtration Avoidance Determination for NYC's water supply. C. Tienken made a motion to draft a letter. The motion was seconded and approved by all with the exception of G. Marzec (abstain). Mary will draft the letter and distribute it for review.

As there were no further topics for discussion, our meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.