

Conservation Advisory Council | City of Newburgh, New York

The Heritage Center, 123 Grand Street, Newburgh, New York 12550

Phone: (845)569-7366 e-mail: conservation@cityofnewburgh-ny.gov

Council Members:

Chuck Thomas, Chairman

Marcel Barrick

Kippy Boyle

Deborah Dresser

Karen Eberle-McCarthy

Gail Fulton

_____vacancy



Conservation Advisory Council Minutes of Meeting January 5, 2017 - 6:40 PM

1. Roll Call

Present: Chuck Thomas, Marcel Barrick, Kippy Boyle, Karen Eberle-McCarthy, Gail Fulton, Omar Balbuena-Palma (Secretary)

Excused: Deborah Dresser

Guest: George Profous, New York Regional Coordinator - Region 2
Phil Prinzivalli
Eli Naher
Jonathan Dates, Consulting Engineer for Central Hudson
Tera Stoner, Gas Engineer for Central Hudson

Motion made to revise agenda to move 182 Fullerton's presentation by Chuck Thomas
Seconded by Marcel Barrick

Presentation by 182 Fullerton

Justin Dates and Tera Stoner appeared before the board representing Central Hudson and gave an overview of the project. There is an existing 2,600 square feet, single-family residential house and garage in the City's RL district, which Central Hudson has purchased. Under section 300-57 of the Zoning Code, public utilities are allowed with a Special Use Permit by the Planning Board. Central Hudson is proposing to demolish the buildings and move the existing below-grade regulator from the manhole in front of the lot into the site. It will be housed within a new structure resembling a single-story house to blend with the surrounding neighborhood; complete with a driveway for maintenance access by Central Hudson. The remainder of the lot will consist of gravel with a decorative aluminum fence around the site with gated access for maintenance as well. The sidewalks on Fullerton Avenue and South Street will be replaced with cement and Central Hudson is currently seeking a lease agreement on the remaining sidewalk with the neighbor. Ms. Stoner clarified that they are unable to use the current structure to house the regulator. The existing tree lawn will be removed and replaced with grass while adding three Winter King Hawthorn trees (two on South Street and one on Fullerton Avenue) closer to the building. Mr. Dates mentioned that due to the tree lawns limited area, planting a new tree would be

unreasonable for its survivability and Phil Prinzivalli mentioned that moving the trees closer to the building is a positive because then they will not grow into the communication cables. Between the fence line and the sidewalk, a hedgerow of inkberry as well as broadleaf evergreen shrubs, and a couple flowering spirea will be added to soften the fence. The CAC recommends to consider the City's Complete Streets guidelines. Ms. Stoner clarified that there is a risk of combustion but Central Hudson will take the means to ensure maximum safety. This project will increase the safety of the maintenance workers while also reducing traffic interruption. A discussion by the CAC was held.

Approval of minutes

CAC noted that the September minutes are still pending.

October minutes approved as amended.

Motion by Kippy Boyle

Motion Seconded: Karen Eberle-McCarthy

The motion unanimously passed

November minutes approved as submitted.

Motion by Chuck Thomas

Motion Seconded: Gail Fulton

The motion unanimously passed

December minutes approved as amended.

Motion by Karen Eberle-McCarthy

Motion Seconded by Gail Fulton

The motion unanimously passed

2. Administration

a. 2017 Budget

Tabled for February.

b. Monthly Financial Report

Five dollars left from the GEM Polaris budget.

c. Tree City USA Recertification & Growth Submitted

Kippy noted everything has been entered in the Arbor Day Portal and Omar must have the remaining item signed by Mayor Kennedy.

d. New 2017 Volunteer Hours Spreadsheet

Kippy has set up a new spreadsheet.

e. Posting of Vacancy on CAC – Status

Letter was sent to Mayor.

3. Site Plan Reviews

a. 182 Fullerton Avenue (Central Hudson)

CAC will submit a comment letter to the Planning Board.

b. Steelways & City Easement Agreement Status

Easement is missing the ten-foot requirement for the right-of-way as per the new LWRP.

At the request of Phil, DEC Urban Forestry Grants were discussed.

George Profous appeared before the board to go over discuss grant information. The City can apply for up to three individual projects and there are three possible grants (with a twenty-five percent local match) that have a deadline on March 1st 2017, at two pm.

- i) Tree inventory – \$11,000 to \$50,000 dollars
- ii) Tree Planting – \$11,000 to \$50,000 dollars
- iii) Tree Maintenance – \$11,000 to \$50,000 dollars

Chuck noted that the Management Plan has been uploaded to the City Website as well as the New York State Urban Forest Council's Website. The 2017 maintenance budget may be used to match the grant. A discussion was held by the CAC.

4. CAC Priority Projects

a. LWRP Update (Chuck)

Chuck will send comments to Sarah Yackel for LWRP. The Council will attempt to be lead agency. Under the new plan, the CAC will have additional duties and will play a central role to the Harbor Management Plan.

b. Natural Resource Inventory (NRI/Open Space) (Chuck/ Marcel)

The CAC will look into the missing NRI/Open Space maps come springtime.

c. Green infrastructure

i) TD Bank Green Streets Grant Closeout (Completed)

(1) GEM Polaris Delivered, Duplicate Keys Needed (Kippy)

Kippy will obtain duplicate keys.

(2) Storage Solution for GEM?

Tabled for next meeting.

ii) Tree Issues/Citizens requests

(1) Keith Chapman from Louis Tree Service working with Central Hudson, need to take the trees at 14 Norton Street and 288 Grand Street down. They are looking for a log loader and possible assistance for wood removal. Fred Fetter will be available the following week for onsite inspections. The CAC will follow up with Charice Alberti.

iii. Over-wintered trees – Spring Planting? (Marcel/Phil)

As expected, the trees have lost their leaves.

iv. Parks

Nothing new to report on the subject.

v. Community Education Report

No update.

5. On-going Natural Resource/Environmental Updates

a. Drinking Water

Chuck is on the last Biodiversity draft and will get up to date information on Washington Lake for the Biodiversity statement. There is a possible cooperation with New Windsor to plant trees around the reservoir at Washington Lake with a grant.

b. Barge Anchorage Issue: State AG requesting dismissal of proposal

No Update

c. Newburgh Water Front Updates

- **Waterfront Trail – None**
- **South Street Parking; Fishing Pier & First Street Walkway/ Newburgh Landing Restoration - None**

d. Pilgrim Pipelines

No Update.

e. Energy-related Issues – Solar Installation Local Law Template

No Update.

6. New Business

- **DEC Urban Forestry Grants – Due March 1st (George Profous)**

The CAC will discuss grant opportunities on January 10th 2017, at the Shelter House in Downing Park at one pm.

- **2017 Schedule of CAC-Participating Events**

- **April 22** **Earth Day**
- **April 28** **Arbor Day**
- **April 30** **Urban Farm Fair**
- **May 6** **Riversweep**
- **_____** **/Spring Plantings/Education)**

- **Brief Review of Growth Awards Categories to help us identify 2 or 3 achievable 2017 projects**
Tabled for February.

7. Calendar of Upcoming events (webinars, training, community events) (5 Minutes)

Kippy will create a template for the calendar.

RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY (Omar B.)

- CAC will draft comment letter for 182 Fullerton
- Chuck will send amended October minutes to Omar
- Proclamation letter to be signed by Mayor
- CAC to will discuss grant opportunities at the Shelter House
- Chuck will send comments for the LWRP to Sarah Yackel, update the information for Washington Lake and will report on the events of the previous year.
- Kippy will create a template for the calendar of upcoming events

8. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Kippy Boyle

Motion Seconded: Gail Fulton

Vote: Unanimously Approved

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 pm

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL PROJECT REVIEWS

2017 Project Reviews by CAC

_____ 182 Fullerton Ave. (Central Hudson)	

2016 Project Reviews by CAC

1/7 198 S. Robinson	4/5 GPI Site Plans for Liberty St.
2/4 Carpenter Ave.	6/20 Mill Street Partners – Mid Broadway Site
4/7 2 Nicoll Street	7/25 New Windsor Hospitality
9/1 Steelways	10/6
(Date) 182 Fullerton (Central Hudson)	

2015 Project Reviews by CAC

First Street Fishing Pier; Comments to Engineering 6/8/15	Habitat Newburgh – Ann St. at Johnston, four units; CAC ltr 9/04/2015
Safe Harbors Park – Broadway at Liberty; comments to PB 8/12/15	Habitat Newburgh – 123 Washington Street – street trees
T/Newburgh Matrix Development in City Watershed – 17K/I-87; CAC Ltr 8/20/15	

2014 Project Reviews by CAC

Shell Gas Station (405 Broadway)	Independent Living
Rt. 300 – Crystal Run	Re-Zoning/LWRP Update
Water Tower replacement	Newburgh Landing/South St./Fishing Pier
Torches	Tyrone Crabb Park Planting List
#5 Scobie Drive	North Montgomery St.

2017 URBAN FORESTRY MONTHLY UPDATE

CITIZEN REQUESTS

From December:

420 Grand – Remediate, don't remove

South Street – High School

Montgomery St. Historical Society – Arborist complaint/Tree Removed

DPW MAINTENANCE

- **Removals**
- **Pruning**
- **Stump-grinding**
- **other**

TREE INVENTORY DATABASE UPDATED