Conservation Advisory Council | City of Newburgh, New York
The Heritage Center, 123 Grand Street, Newburgh, New York 12550
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Council Members:
Chuck Thomas, Chairman
Marcel Barrick
Kippy Boyle
Karen Eberle-McCarthy
Gail Fulton
Alison Filosa
Genie Abrams

Conservation Advisory Council
Minutes of Meeting
February 7, 2019 – 6:30 PM

1. Roll Call

Present: **Chuck Thomas, Chairperson, Kippy Boyle, Gail Fulton, Alison Filosa, Marcel Barrick, Karen Eberle-McCarthy, Genie Abrams, Omar Balbuena-Palma (Secretary)**

Guests: Carla Castillo, Jerry Porreca and Mary Beth Porreca

2. Scenic Hudson to present on Danskammer

The CAC urges the City Council to oppose the proposed Danskammer Energy Plant without delay. Any perceived benefits to the City will be more than offset by reduced air quality, a decrease in public health and an increase in carbon loading into the atmosphere.

The CAC will forward the attached comment letter to City Council regarding the Danskammer Project.
Motion by: Kippy Boyle
Seconded by: Genie Abrams
The motion passed unanimously.

3. Presentation on Cornwall's NRI (Carla Castillo)

Carla Castillo from the Hudson Valley Regional Council appeared. Ms. Castillo gave a brief overview on the NRI status for the Town of Cornwall. She asked for the status of the NRI for the City of Newburgh.

Mr. Thomas said the CAC has several maps available and several studies completed, He said a narrative summary is missing.

Ms. Castillo said the CAC has the ability to obtain a grant for the narrative. She said the Hudson Valley Regional Council may help to finalize the NRI. She said the CAC should identify the concerns of the community and the City's elected officials. She said the narrative should address those concerns and be added as part of the editing process.

4. 96 Broadway Tree Removal by Philippe Pierre

Marcel will forward tree recommendations to Philippe Pierre.

5. 175 Gidney Avenue Tree Removal by Jerry and Mary Beth Porreca

Jerry Porreca, Property Owner, appeared. He said the intent is to renovate the building and he was advised by the Building Department to repair/replace the sidewalk. He said the tree must be removed due to safety concerns and he is willing to plant a tree elsewhere. He said the Building Inspector reviewed work on-site and supports tree removal.

Ms. Filosa confirmed the tree is a Norway Maple Tree. She said the tree is uplifting the sidewalk.

The CAC discussed the status of the tree and moved to approve the tree removal at 175 Gidney Avenue.
Motion by: Marcel Barrick
Seconded by: Karen Eberle-McCarthy
The motion passed unanimously.

6. Administration

- **Approval of Minutes from January meeting**
  The January minutes were approved.

  Motion by: Karen Eberle-McCarthy
  Seconded by: Marcel Barrick
  The motion passed unanimously.
- **Monthly Financial Report**
  Mr. Thomas said the CAC does not have a treasurer.

  The Secretary said the 2019 budget is active and the CAC currently has $13,360.00 available. He said a cover letter with a summary was provided to keep track of any expense in lieu of the Treasurer.

- **Submit Monthly Volunteer Hours**
  CAC members will submit volunteer hours via e-mail to gailfulon@rocketmail.com.

- **Revising CAC Meeting Date**
  The CAC members discussed moving the regular meeting date to the third Thursday of the month so as not to overlap with the City Council work session.

  The Secretary said he will confirm the availability of the Heritage for those dates and forward a confirmation.

  The CAC moved to tentatively change the regular meeting dates to the third Thursday of the month.
  Motion by: Kippy Boyle
  Seconded by: Genie Abrams
  The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Site Plan Reviews**
    - **82 Bridge Street - Updated**
      Ms. Fulton gave a review of the Planning Board meeting regarding 82 Bridge Street. She said the neighbors seem open to a compromise for the Special Use Permit and the Planning Board tabled the application until the March 19, 2019.
    - **43 Beacon Street**
      The CAC members reviewed the Coastal Assessment Form and determined it was generally consistent with the LWRP.

      Mr. Thomas said question four (4) should be answered "yes."

      Ms. Eberle McCarthy said a couple street trees should be added to the site plan.

      Ms. Filosa agreed and said the trees would help mitigate storm water run-off.

      Mr. Thomas said he will draft a comment letter and forward it to the members for review.

8. **CAC Priority Projects**
    - **LWRP Update -Locally Adopted on 7-10-17 – No Update**
    - **Natural Resource Inventory (NRI/Open Space)**
      No further update.
    - **Urban Forestry**
        - **Current Tree Inspections Report**
          Ms. Boyle said she forwarded a report to the DPW regarding the inspected trees. She said the DPW should be referring to the tree survey. She said she will reach out to Davey to request available training opportunities.
        - **Tree City USA Application/Growth awards 2018 Form**
          Ms. Boyle and Ms. Abrams will work on the Tree City Application
        - **S. William St. Grant Status**
          Ms. Boyle said the weather may be an issue for planting the trees. She reached out to the arborist who said he is ready to move forward with the project.

          Mr. Barrick said the trees should be planted if the arborist determines they can be planted correctly.
        - **Code Revisions for Trees**
          Mr. Barrick and Ms. Boyle will set time aside to address the Code Revisions.
        - **Tree/Sidewalks Conflict Solutions**
          The CAC reviewed tree conflicts at several properties. Ms. Boyle will forward the determination to DPW after the Arborist reviews.
        - **CAC Website – No update**

9. **On-going Natural Resource/Environmental Updates**
    - **Drinking Water – No Update**
    - **Newburgh Water Front – No Update**
        - **Waterfront Trail**
        - **South Street Parking; Fishing Pier & First Street Walkway/ Newburgh Landing Restoration**

- **Energy-related issues**
  No further update.

10. New Business

- **2019 Riverkeeper Sweep**
  Ms. Boyle said the 2019 Riverkeeper Sweep will be on May 4, 2019.
- **Potential Grants**
  The CAC discussed potential grants. Ms. Boyle said the Historical Society may provide assistance for the path restoration/extension from Clinton Street to Montgomery Street
- **Notification of Lead Agency Intent by NECSD**
  Mr. Thomas said the Newburgh Enlarged City School District is proposing various improvements to the schools. He said building additions/demolitions, parking lot expansions/reconstruction, building renovations, landscaping site and athletic field renovations in line with recent District-wide Building Conditions Surveys are proposed.

  The Secretary said he will forward the notice to the CAC.

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

- 05/04 Riverkeeper Sweep

RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS FOR JANUARY (Balbuena)

- The Secretary will forward the NESCD notice to the CAC and the contact information for the Arborist
- The Secretary will forward the CAC comment letter for the Danskammer Project
- Ms. Boyle will send an e-mail to Chief Horton and DPW regarding the tree at 175 Gidney Avenue
- Mr. Barrick will forward tree recommendations to Philippe Pierre
- Mr. Barrick and Ms. Boyle will set time aside to address the Code revision
- Ms. Boyle and Ms. Abrams will work on the Tree City Application
- Mr. Barrick will try to access the tree survey
- Ms. Boyle will call Davey to request available training opportunities
- Ms. Boyle will look into the Clinton Street Extension
- Ms. Eberle McCarthy and Ms. Filosa will review tree signage in Downing Park for the Urban Forestry Conference tour of Downing Park in July 2019
- Next CAC meeting date is tentatively set for March 21, 2019

12. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Karen Eberle McCarthy
Motion Seconded: Kippy Boyle
The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
PROJECT REVIEWS*

2019 Project Reviews by CAC

1/3	82 Bridge Street	2/7	43 Beacon Street

2018 Project Reviews by CAC

1/5	286 Grand Street	5/3	2 Nicoll Street
2/1	5 Scobie Drive	8/2	120 Front Street
3/1	136 Lake Street		

2017 Project Reviews by CAC

1/5	182 Fullerton Ave. (Central Hudson)	4/6	123 Montgomery Street
2/2	Mill Street Bridge	5/4	35-37 Broad Street
3/2	First Street Streetscape Improvements	6/1	640 Broadway
3/2	1 Park Place	9/7	603 Broadway
3/2	100 Third Street	10/5	Sunset Ridge
4/6	73-85 Grand Street	12/7	27 S. Water Street
4/6	98 Grand Street		

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		

*See archives for prior years