

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

Deborah Dresser

Karen Eberle-McCarthy

Gail Fulton

_____ vacancy



Conservation Advisory Council Minutes of Meeting March 2, 2017 - 6:30 PM

1. Roll Call

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

Guest: Phil Prinzivalli Urban Forestry Committee Member
Bill Kaplan
Joan Kaplan
Russell Vernon
Tamson Hollo
Saul Brown

2. Presentation for Regal Bag Project (Mr. Kaplan)

Mr. Kaplan appeared before the CAC to give a presentation for his upcoming project. He is proposing to buy a piece of property across the street from Regal Bag to be used primarily for parking. He explained the purchase was contingent upon setting up a traffic light from the Department of Transportation and that it was required to rehab Regal Bag. He went on to give a brief history of Newburgh's development and his experience with the City. He noted that Regal Bag will not receive special treatment by a tax abatement as anyone within the City of Newburgh can apply for the abatement to renovate an old factory. He stated that the City of Newburgh is in despair and that the City boards and commissions need to work in unison to succeed.

Mr. Kaplan became frustrated by the actions of a member of the CAC and proceeded to pack up his paperwork. The CAC expressed their appreciation to Mr. Kaplan and tried to get him to stay but Mr. Kaplan's mind had been made up, and he left the meeting.

3. Administration

a. Approval of minutes

February minutes approved with a modification.

Motion by Karen Eberle-McCarthy

Motion Seconded: Gail Fulton
The motion unanimously passed

b. 2017 Budget

Deborah noted that the CAC has not spent a penny.

c. Monthly Financial Report

A donation has been made to the CAC, Deborah will follow up with the donator by sending a “thank you” note.

Deborah Dresser left the CAC meeting at 7:15 p.m.

d. Tree City USA Recertification & Growth Submitted

No update.

e. New 2017 Volunteer Hours Spreadsheet

Kippy will receive the volunteer hours from the members at each meeting.

f. Posting of Vacancy on CAC – Status

The City Council is aware they need to re-appoint Gail and Deborah to the CAC and will place them in the work session agenda.

4. Site Plan Reviews

a. 182 Fullerton Avenue (Central Hudson)

No update.

b. Steelways & City Easement Agreement Status

No update.

c. Mill Street Bridge – Coastal Consistency Review Status

No update.

d. First Streetscape Improvements

The CAC reviewed the Coastal Consistency Form and found that it was consistent with the LWRP.

Motion by: Kippy Boyle

Motion Seconded by: Karen Eberle-McCarthy

The motion unanimously passed

Chuck Thomas made a motion to move the presentation by Saul Brown up next in the agenda.
Seconded by Karen Eberle-McCarthy.

Solar in Newburgh

Saul Brown appeared before the CAC. He gave a brief overview of his previous presentation, which was to encourage residents and businesses to take advantage of the group purchasing power from local solar installers. It will be a community based initiative and the project will also educate them as to the incentives available. It will be a three-month program from May to July and will take advantage of the Newburgh Illuminated Festival. To be considered, Saul needs a lead organization. If the CAC approves this solarized program, Newburgh will be halfway towards being considered a clean energy community. Saul Brown would be the lead on the program and he would need to be appointed as a sub-committee member to the CAC on energy. There would be four requests to the CAC: access to contact list, three notices to the newspaper for recording purposes, identifying solar ambassadors, and tabling opportunities to help identify events to promote the campaign.

After a brief discussion, the CAC agreed to be the lead agency.

Motion by: Marcel Barrick
Seconded by: Karen Eberle-McCarthy
The motion unanimously passed

e. 100 First Street – Coastal Consistency Review

The CAC reviewed the Coastal Consistency Form and found that it was consistent with the LWRP with a minor modification. Question 4 should be changed to “yes”

Motion by: Gail Fulton
Motion Seconded by: Karen Eberle-McCarthy
The motion unanimously passed

f. 1 Park Place – Coastal Consistency Review

The CAC reviewed the Coastal Consistency form and found it to be consistent with the LWRP after a few modifications were made.

Motion by: Karen Eberle-McCarthy
Motion seconded by: Marcel Barrick
The motion unanimously passed

5. CAC Priority Projects

a. LWRP Update (Chuck)

No update. Kippy will check in with City staff for updates.

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

Now that the City’s GIS Analyst Laurence Fleischer has left, Laura Heady from DEC and Kate Schmidt at Orange County Department of Planning will assist the CAC in obtaining the missing NRI Maps.

i) Brownsfield

Map added to the NRI by Chuck Thomas.

c. Green infrastructure

i) Arbor Day Plans – Develop Checklist

Kippy will check in with Deborah to develop the checklist.

(1) Arbor Day Resolution

Kippy will draft the resolution.

ii) TD Bank Green Streets Grant Closeout (Completed)

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

No update.

(2) Storage Solution for GEM?

A location will be determined to store the GEM by March 15.

iii) Tree Issues/Citizens requests

The project “Benkard is beautiful” was proposed by Tammy, to have the community begin planting trees beginning on Liberty Street. Kippy will follow up.

Ben Grant will devise a watering plan for new trees on Liberty Street.

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

Marcel commented that his position at Urban Farm has been outsourced and the CAC may have some complications with access to the Urban Farm.

The CAC decided to hire an arborist to plant the over wintered trees stored at the Urban Farm.

Motion by: Kippy Boyle
Motion seconded by: Gail Fulton
The motion passed unanimously.

v) Parks

No update.

vi) Community Education Report

No update.

vii) Climate Smart Community

No update.

viii) Urban Farm Fair Registration (Due March 17, 2017)

Chuck submitted the form, and the CAC will pay a \$10-dollar fee for 1 table and 2 chairs. The CAC will bring the GEM and mulch or trees to the Farm Fair.

5. On-going Natural Resource/Environmental Updates

a. Drinking Water

A meeting was held at Kaplan Hall.

b. Barge Anchorage Issue: State AG requesting dismissal of proposal 2/7 Beacon Meeting

The issue is still alive and well, Kippy is proposing a Kayak protest in May.

c. Newburgh Water Front Updates

○ **Waterfront Trail – None**

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

No update.

d. Pilgrim Pipelines

Kippy mentioned Sean Maloney did not appear opposed to the pipeline. Tammy noted that strong pressure is required to stop the pipeline.

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

No update.

6. New Business

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

○ **Proposal #1 – South William Street Re-Greening**
Completed.

○ **Proposal #2 – Tree Maintenance Plan for non-hazardous Trees**
The CAC is formulating a tree maintenance plan.

○ **Proposal #3**
The CAC does not have enough people to pursue a third grant.

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

- **February 3** **Regional Energy Working Group**
- **February 7** **Barge Anchorage Meeting in Beacon**
- **April 22** **Earth Day**
- **April 28** **Arbor Day**
- **April 29** **Urban Farm Fair**
- **May 6** **Riversweep**
- **_____** **/Spring Plantings/Education)**

RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS FOR MARCH (Omar B.)

- Deborah will send the thank you note
- CAC will determine Phil's title
- CAC will get in contact with captain John Benkard for the Benkard Tree Project
- CAC will determine where to store the GEM
- CAF modifications will be e-mailed to CAC members
- Generate maps that show the Federally designated flood and State designated fresh water of tides.
- Kippy and Chuck will check the status of the LWRP weekly
- Karen will look at the over wintered-trees and Fred will plant those trees around arbor day
- Kippy will look at the vandalized trees in Tyrone Park as per Councilwoman Mejia's request
- Kippy will work on the proclamation for Arbor Day
- Deborah will put the decals on the GEM for Farm Fair
- Notify Laura Heady and Kate Schmidt of missing NRI maps for assistance

Phil shared information on the website: turn21.org

"This is the time for our species to "Turn21": to transition from adolescence to responsible adulthood as citizens of the planet. Turn21.org asks that you take the time to understand the human predicament, and on the 21st of every month help spread the word."

8. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Marcel Barrick

Motion Seconded: Karen Eberle-McCarthy

Vote: Unanimously Approved

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL PROJECT REVIEWS

2017 Project Reviews By CAC

1/5	182 Fullerton Ave. (Central Hudson)	___	1 Park Place
2/2	Mill Street Bridge	___	100 Third Street
___	First Street Streetscape Improvements		

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		

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