

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

Alison Filosa



Conservation Advisory Council Minutes of Meeting April 5, 2018 – 6:30 PM

1. Roll Call

Present: Chuck Thomas Chairperson, Gail Fulton, Deborah Dresser, Marcel Barrick
Omar Balbuena-Palma (Secretary)

Excused: Karen Eberle-McCarthy, Kippy Boyle, Alison Filosa

Guests: Phil Prinzivalli Urban Forestry Committee Member
George Profous, Senior Forester, NYSDEC-Lands and Forests
Gus Courtsunis, John Courtsunis

2. Administration

a. Approval of Minutes from March 1, 2018

The March minutes were approved.

Motion by: Deborah Dresser

Seconded by: Marcel Barrick

The motion unanimously passed.

b. Monthly Financial Report

Dresser said the CAC has \$6,250.00 dollars available in the 2018 budget and \$1,370.84 dollars available in the Shade Tree Donation line. She asked if the Shade Tree Donation line could be renamed, Balbuena said he will follow up with the Comptroller to confirm.

c. Submit Monthly Volunteer Hours

CAC members will submit volunteer hours via e-mail to gailfulon@rocketmail.com.

3. Site Plan Reviews – No Update

a. 136 Lake Street – No update

b. 286 Grand Street – No Update

c. 35-37 Broad Street – No update

The Chair moved the Pilot Project on Broadway forward on the Agenda.

Pilot Project/DEC Video

Thomas said this project on Broadway is a great example to showcase the correct method of planting trees. He said planting trees correctly will prevent sidewalk disturbance by tree roots.

George Profous appeared and gave a brief overview of the project. He requested clarity on the following issues: which tree species does the CAC suggest? How much structural soil will the CAC purchase and who is handling the public outreach?

The CAC members discussed the tree species and said the following:
The two trees will be Tilia Americana “Redmond” (American lindens) or equivalent lindens
Prinzivalli will call Tantillos to confirm the price and quantity of structural soil
Dresser will handle the public outreach

4. CAC Priority Projects

a. LWRP Update -Locally Adopted on 7-10-17 (Thomas)

Thomas will contact Jamie Ethier from the New York Department of State to follow up on the LWRP.

b. Natural Resource Inventory (NRI/Open Space) (Thomas/ Barrick)

Thomas said he is gathering additional sources and volunteers for assistance.

c. Dark Skies

Thomas said the letter provides guidelines that the City should consider before installing new LED lights within the City. He said the letter addresses the best lighting template to reduce glare, light trespass and sky glow.

Barrick said lighting in the City should be gentle and warm instead of harsh stadium lights.

Thomas will forward the letter to the City.

d. Urban Forestry

i) Tree Issues/ Citizen Requests

(1) Request by John Courtsunis

John Courtsunis and Gus Courtsunis appeared. John said the intent is to repair/replace 100 feet of sidewalk at 482, 484, and 486 Broadway. He said 50 feet of the sidewalk has been replaced and he would like to plant 4 to 5 trees on the remaining 50 feet. He asked the following: What are the best species to plant? What is the recommended distance between tree pits? What type of trees are planted outside of Brooks Funeral Home? What tree grates does the CAC recommend?

Barrick said the trees outside of Brooks Funeral Home are Pear trees and they are no longer on the list of recommended trees. The CAC discussed the variety of trees available for planting and suggested the use of structural soil for planting.

Dresser said aluminum tree grates do not last long.

Prinzivalli said increasing the size of the planting area will allow for more water absorption.

John said he would like to follow up with the CAC after he returns from a vacation.

The CAC agreed to follow up on the project after the Pilot Project on Broadway is completed.

(2) On-site Tree Inspections – No update

(3) High Risk Trees List – No update

ii) Parks –Park Conservancy Meeting

Fulton said she will attend the Parks Conservancy meeting on April 6, 2018.

iii) Arbor Day

Dresser said on May 13, 2018 art projects by children will be mounted in the Code Compliance lobby and in the Newburgh Free Library. She said the newspaper will write an article on the children's artwork and all are welcomed to attend. She said the artwork will be on display for 2-3 weeks. She said she will contact volunteers from Target for assistance to plant a tree on Arbor Day, April 27, 2018.

Prinzivalli said the Orange Nursery may deliver the tree on April 26, 2018.

Dresser said she will follow up with Boyle to confirm the tree location.

Thomas said the GEM vehicle should be included for Arbor Day.

Dresser agreed and said the GEM vehicle will then be showcased at the Urban Farm Fair and that Fulton will assist her in manning the table.

iv) Community Education Report

No update on the tree tags.

e. CAC Website Update

Balbuena will add the Dark Skies letter to the CAC website and follow up with Boyle on the update.

5. On-going Natural Resource/Environmental Updates

a. Drinking Water

Barrick said the Department of Defense has begun a survey/water test at Stewart Air National Guard Base.

b. Newburgh Water Front Updates

- **Waterfront Trail – No update**
- **South Street Parking; Fishing Pier & First Street Walkway/ Newburgh Landing Restoration**

Thomas recommended the CAC to visit the Fishing Pier to view the progress.

c. Energy-related issues – No update

6. New Business

a. Water Discussion - Taste of Sprawl

Thomas will circulate a flyer to the Hudson Highlands Land Trust's water discussion on how land-use decisions are impacting our drinking water supplies and learn about what municipalities, local / regional mid-Hudson organizations, and the state are doing to protect our essential resource.

b. Tree Donation

Dresser asked to see the Tree Donation records. She said the website should be updated with the names of those who donated and the CAC should begin planting those trees in May or October.

Balbuena will research the records.

c. Tree Ordinance

Thomas said a tree ordinance is absent in the City Code. Barrick said the CAC should encourage the Council to implement a tree ordinance.

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

- 4/6 Parks Conservancy meeting
- 4/11 Microplastics in the Hudson
- 4/15 Taste of Sprawl (Water Discussion)
- 4/21 Earth Day
- 4/27 Arbor Day
- 4/28 Urban Farm Fair
- 5/1 Pilot Project planting
- 5/13 Children's artwork

RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS FOR APRIL (Balbuena)

- George Profous will send the start time of the video recording for the Pilot Project on Broadway. The CAC should confirm who will be the speaker and if the City Manager can be present for the event. Dresser will take care of the newspaper publishing.
- Prinzivalli will follow up on the structural soil from Tantillo's and submit the invoice to Dresser
- Prinzivalli will follow up with the Orange Nursery to confirm the tree delivery date/time for Arbor Day
- Dresser will contact the volunteers from Target
- Balbuena will forward the tax exempt form to Prinzivalli, upload the Dark Skies comment letter to the website, research the tree donations and follow up with Boyle regarding the website update
- Balbuena will see if the Shade Tree Donations line can be renamed Tree Donation for Urban Forestry
- Thomas will contact Jamie Ethier from the New York Department of State to follow up on the LWRP
- Thomas will forward the Dark Skies letter to the City
- Balbuena will place John Courtsuni's request and the Tree Ordinance on the agenda after completion of the Pilot Project on Broadway
- Fulton and Dresser will man the table at the Urban Farm Fair beginning at 9:00 p.m.
- Dresser will send an invitation to the Urban Farm Fair Calendar at 2Alices

8. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Deborah Dresser

Motion Seconded: Gail Fulton

Vote: Unanimously Approved

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

**CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
PROJECT REVIEWS**

2018 Project Reviews By CAC

1/5	286 Grand Street	3/1	136 Lake Street
2/1	5 Scobie Drive		

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		

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.