

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 May 16, 2019 – 6:30 PM

1. Roll Call

Present: Chuck Thomas, Chairperson, Kippy Boyle, Marcel Barrick, Alison Filosa, Genie Abrams, , Omar Balbuena-Palma (Secretary)

Excused: Karen Eberle-McCarthy, Gail Fulton

2. July ReLeaf Conference, tree choices/maintenance and cost/benefit - George Profous

George Profous, Senior Forester, appeared. He submitted a suggested tree planting list and gave an overview of the ReLeaf Conference itinerary. He said the CAC should consider applying for a maintenance grant from the state.

Ms. Filosa said the tree tag invoice was recently submitted and the tree tags will be displayed in time for the conference.

Ms. Boyle said perhaps a tree could be planted in People's *Park.*

3. Request by Alvin Moonesar for 69-79 William Street

Alvin Moonesar appeared representing the property owner of 69-77 William Street. He said the intent is redevelop three (3) lots into a mixed-use redevelopment. He gave a brief overview of the project and summarized the intent for each of the buildings:

- 69 William Street
 - o Add a second story to the existing one-story building at the rear of the lot for a total of four (4) residential units and two commercial unit (Mixed-use with Residential);
- 77 William Street
 - o Add a second story to the existing "L" building for a total of six (6) commercial units (Shopping Center);
- 79 William Street
 - o Construct a one-story building on the empty lot area for a total of eight (8) residential units and

two (2) commercial units (Mixed-use with Residential);

He said he previously worked for the YMCA and has approximately 16 years of experience in community development. He said William Street used to be recognized as the shopping district to visit within the City of Newburgh and renovating 69-79 William Street will help jump start the effort to bring that hub back. He said he plans to add trees to the neighborhood at a later date and would appreciate any feedback or assistance the CAC can provide.

The CAC discussed the proposal and potential tree planting locations with Mr. Moonesar and agreed to provide assistance later.

4. Administration

- **Approval of Minutes from April meeting**

The April minutes were approved.

Motion by: Chuck Thomas

Seconded by: Karen Eberle-McCarthy

The motion passed unanimously.

- **Monthly Financial Report**

Ms. Abrams said the planting of a little "tree nursery" at Crabb Park sponsored by Mid-Hudson Subaru was completed successfully. She said she purchased gloves and other supplies out of pocket and asked if the CAC could reimburse the cost.

The CAC decided to authorize the purchase of the Crabb Park supplies and reimburse Ms. Abrams for the expense.

Motion by: Chuck Thomas

Seconded by: Kippy Boyle

The motion passed unanimously.

The Secretary said the invoice for the tree tag purchase was submitted and approved by the City. He said there is a total of \$13,048.00 remaining in the budget.

- **Submit Monthly Volunteer Hours**

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

5. Site Plan Reviews

- **Kaplan Water Street Redevelopment Project (Updated)**

The Secretary said the Kaplan Water Street Redevelopment Project will not appear at the May Planning Board meeting and they are intending to appear at the June 18, 2019 Planning Board meeting. He said the CAC should provide a comment letter by then for consideration by the Board.

6. CAC Priority Projects

- **LWRP Update -Locally Adopted on 7-10-17**

No update.

- **Natural Resource Inventory (NRI/Open Space)**

No update.

- **Urban Forestry**
 - **Arbor Day Planting**
Ms. Boyle said the Arbor Day planting was a success and pictures should be uploaded to the City website.
 - **GEM Vehicle Status**
No update.
 - **S. William St. Grant Status**
Ms. Boyle said they are looking to plant additional trees on the opposite side of the street but they will need the GEM vehicle to water the existing trees as soon as possible.
 - **Code Revisions for Trees**
No update.
 - **Tree/Sidewalks Conflict Solutions**
 - **112 Broadway**
The CAC discussed a tree removal request by Wolf Friedman, property owner of 112 Broadway.

Mr. Barrick said the tree required maintenance but is not too big for the location. He said the tree should not be replaced by a smaller tree.

Ms. Boyle said shade trees are extremely important to counter heat island effects. She said the tree is healthy and is a valuable shade tree on the block. She said the tree simply requires maintenance.

The CAC unanimously agreed that the tree should not be removed.
 - **Community Education Report**
Mr. Barrick forwarded a guide for the tree planting process in Newburgh and a tree planting recommendation list to the Board for consideration.
 - **Parks – Park Conservancy Meeting**
No update.
- **2019 Urban Forestry Conference**
 - **Complete & Install Tree Signage in Downing Park**
Ms. Filosa said the tree tags will be installed after payment is made to the vendor.
 - **Tour of Park by members of CAC**
No update.

7. On-going Natural Resource/Environmental Updates

- **Drinking Water**
Mr. Barrick said the Town of New Windsor is switching to aqueduct water from the Catskill Aqueduct because of the discovery of low levels of PFOS and PFOA in its Butterhill wells.

Mr. Thomas said there are two (2) major projects nearby with the capacity to impact the City of Newburgh. He said the first is a site plan application before the Town of New Windsor Planning Board for a hotel and the second is a BJ's Wholesale Club proposed in the Town of Newburgh. He said the CAC and the community should be made aware.

- **Newburgh Waterfront Updates**

- **Waterfront Trail**

- Ms. Boyle said the Planning Board should review the Form Based Code, specifically the Planned Waterfront District (“PWD”). She said the Applicant may extend the existing Waterfront trail as part of the Kaplan Water Street Redevelopment Project.

- **South Street Park; Fishing Pier & First Street Walkway/Newburgh Landing Restoration**
No update.

- **Energy-related issues – No update**

8. New Business – No update

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

- 06/01 Newburgh Illuminated Festival
- 06/18 Planning Board meeting
- 07/18 to 07/20 ReLeaf Conference

RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS FOR MAY (Balbuena)

- Registration fee will be distributed by Mr. Profous for the ReLeaf Conference;
- E-mail volunteer hours to Ms. Fulton;
- CAC should also review the PWD Code;
- Ms. Boyle will reach out to the State for the S. Williams Grant regarding tree planting;
- Ms. Boyle will forward a picture to update the CAC homepage;
- CAC will forward the tree recommendation to DPW regarding 112 Broadway;

10. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Genie Abrams

Motion Seconded: Marcel Barrick

The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL PROJECT REVIEWS*

2019 Project Reviews by CAC

1/3	82 Bridge Street	3/21	260 Liberty Street
2/7	43 Beacon Street	4/18	Kaplan Water Street Redevelopment Project

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