

***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

Genie Abrams

Alison Filosa

Gail Fulton

Andrew Murphy

Robert Sanchez

Ronald Zorilla



**Conservation Advisory Council
Zoom Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2020 – 6:30 PM**

1. Roll Call

Present: Alison Filosa Acting Chairperson, Gail Fulton, Genie Abrams, Andrew Murphy, Robert Sanchez, Ronald Zorilla, Omar Balbuena-Palma (Secretary)

Excused: Chuck Thomas

2. Administration

- **Introduction of New Member**

The CAC welcomed Ronald Zorilla as a new member to the CAC.

- **Approval of Minutes from June meeting**

The June minutes were approved as submitted.

Motion by: Genie Abrams

Seconded by: Robert Sanchez

The motion passed unanimously.

- **Monthly Financial Report**

The Secretary said the CAC has \$20,721.40 left to spend.

Ms. Abrams said the CAC should authorize paying the Arborist for his services.

Motion by: Genie Abrams

Seconded by: Gail Fulton

The motion passed unanimously.

The Secretary said the City will soon distribute the 2021 budget hearing schedule and the CAC should discuss the schedule and any modifications to the budget at their next meeting.

- **Submit Monthly Volunteer Hours**

The CAC members submitted their volunteer hours to Ms. Fulton.

3. New Business

- **Grant Discussion**

The Secretary said there are no new grants that the representative from the previous meeting is planning to partner on with or in the City of Newburgh in the near future.

- **City Arborist**

The Acting Chairperson said the Arborist is in the process of identifying several trees that need to be removed in the City. She said a list will be compiled and provided to DPW soon.

Mr. Zorilla said he will forward contact information for a new Arborist later.

The CAC discussed the tree removal process.

- **Protect New York's Streams bill**

Ms. Abrams said the CAC should support a bill to help protect New York's water supply.

The CAC members requested additional time to review the water bill and draft a support letter.

Ms. Fulton said she'll reach out to the Chairperson to draft the support letter.

4. CAC Priority Projects

- **Urban Forestry**

- **Tree & Sidewalks Conflict Solutions**

The CAC discussed the procedure for tree removals and DPW's involvement.

The Secretary said he'll forward tree removal information to the Acting Chairperson for review.

The Acting Chairperson and Mr. Zorilla said they will review and provide a tree removal guide.

- **CAC Guidelines for Tree Purchases**

The Secretary said he'll forward the draft guidelines for consideration.

- **GEM Polaris Utility Car Maintenance**

Ms. Abrams said the vehicle is inoperable because the battery needs to be replaced. She said the battery replacement is very expensive and it may be better to auction/sell the vehicle.

The CAC discussed the GEM vehicle and tabled the discussion for the next meeting.

- **Code Revisions for Trees**

The Secretary said he will follow up with Kippy Boyle for an update regarding the Code revision.

- **Community Education Report**

Mr. Zorilla said Thomas Ching, formerly from the Parks Department, gave a history of Downing Park and that Food and Water Watch will arrive soon in Newburgh to discuss Danskammer. He said he will be working with youth on environmental leadership projects with Scenic Hudson and Downing Park.

- **Parks – Park Conservancy Meeting**

Ms. Abrams said the Parks Conservancy is partnering with Scenic Hudson to plant trees on South Miller Street.

Mr. Zorilla said he recently became a Board member of the Parks Conservancy.

- **CAC Website**

The Secretary said he is waiting on the revised forms to update the CAC website.

- **Natural Resource Inventory (NRI/Open Space) – (Chuck Thomas)**

No update.

5. On-going Natural Resource/Environmental Updates (15 Minutes)

- **LWRP Update – Locally Adopted 07-10-17**

No update.

- **Drinking Water Report**

No update.

- **Newburgh Waterfront Updates**

- **Waterfront Trail – None**

No Update.

- **South Street Park; Fishing Pier & First Street Walkway/Newburgh Landing Restoration**

Mr. Sanchez said he is in the process of donating four portable docks to the City.

- **Energy Related Issues**

No Update.

6. Calendar of Upcoming Events

- **07-21-20 Planning Board Zoom Meeting**
- **07-28-20 Zoning Board of Appeals Zoom Meeting.**
- **08-20-20 Muchattoes Lake Clean Up**

7. Recap of Action Items for July (Secretary)

- The Secretary will:
 - Contact the Arborist for any outstanding invoices;
 - Forward tree removal/tree purchasing information to the Acting Chairperson;
 - Follow up on the battery status of the GEM vehicle;
 - Follow up with Kippy Boyle;
- The Acting Chairperson will review the tree removal/purchasing information and forward a draft to Mr. Ronald clarification and then to Corporation Counsel;

- Arborist will forward tree recommendations to DPW;
- Ms. Fulton will contact the Chairperson to draft a letter in support of the Protect New York's Streams bill;

8. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Genie Abrams

Motion Seconded: Ronald Zorilla

The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL PROJECT REVIEWS*

2019 Project Reviews by CAC

1/3	82 Bridge Street	7/25	12 Front Street
2/7	43 Beacon Street	7/25	1 S Colden Street
3/21	260 Liberty Street	8/15	188 Grand Street
4/18	Kaplan Water Street Redevelopment Project	10/17	Kaplan Water Street Redevelopment Project
7/25	297 Grand Street	11/21	639 Broadway

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