

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 July 25, 2019 – 6:00 PM

1. Roll Call

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

Guest: Jack Powell

2. Administration

- **Approval of Minutes from June meeting**

The June minutes were approved.

Motion by: Gail Fulton

Seconded by: Karen Eberle-McCarthy

The motion passed unanimously.

- **Monthly Financial Report**

The Secretary said there is a total of \$12,817.03 remaining in the budget. He said the CAC members should forward any invoices for payment.

- **Submit Monthly Volunteer Hours**

CAC members submitted their volunteer hours to Ms. Fulton.

3. S. William St. Grant Status - Jack Powell

Mr. Powell said approximately four (4) trees were damaged on South Williams street. He asked if the CAC would like to authorize replacing the trees.

Mr. Thomas said the trees should be replaced as soon as possible. He said he will contact Manza farms to confirm if they have a replacement plan/deal.

Mr. Barrick agreed and said the trees should be replaced in Fall.

Motion by: Kippy Boyle
Seconded by: Marcel Barrick
The motion passed unanimously.

4. Site Plan Reviews

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

Mr. Thomas said the Applicant has not addressed the comments by City Staff, the CAC or the Planning Board.

Ms. Boyle said the public were generally against the application at the July 16 Planning Board meeting. She said she will forward permeable pavement information for consideration to the Planning Board

The Secretary said the public hearing remains open and anyone wishing to comment on the application may do so at the August 20 Planning Board meeting.

- **297 Grand Street – Planning Board Subdivision Application**

The CAC reviewed the Coastal Assessment Form (“CAF”).

Mr. Thomas said question 2.i. should be answered “Yes.”

Mr. Boyle clarified the project consists of subdividing an existing Carriage House from the Main Building into two (2) separate lots.

Ms. Abrams said there is no proposed alteration to the land or building.

The CAC determined the CAF to be generally consistent with the LWRP and will forward a comment letter accordingly.

- **12 Front Street – Planning Board Site Plan Application**

The CAC reviewed the Coastal Assessment Form (“CAF”).

Ms. Boyle said the CAF should be revised to reflect that the property lies near Unico Park and is located within the 100 year flood plain.

Mr. Barrick said he is concerned runoff from the proposed use will drain into the combined storm sewer system and all efforts should be made to alleviate it.

The CAC determined the CAF to be generally consistent with the LWRP and will forward a comment letter accordingly.

- **1 S. Colden Street – Zoning Board of Appeals Area Variance Application**

The CAC reviewed the Coastal Assessment Form (“CAF”).

Mr. Thomas said question 1.c. should be answered “No.”

Mr. Barrick said he is concerned runoff from the cleaning supplies will drain into the combined storm sewer system and all efforts should be made to alleviate it.

The CAC determined the CAF to be generally consistent with the LWRP and will forward a comment letter accordingly.

5. CAC Priority Projects

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

Mr. Thomas said he needs to contact the Interim Director of Planning and Development to review the comments from the State.

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

Ms. Boyle said the tree canopy cover in Open Spaces should be identified. She said it would enable a transparent process for tree replacements.

- **Urban Forestry**

- **GEM Vehicle Status**

Mr. Barrick said the GEM vehicle is operational and may be used to water the S. William Street trees.

Ms. Boyle said Deborah Dresser requested to use the GEM vehicle. She said she will follow up with additional information.

- **Code Revisions for Trees**

Ms. Boyle forwarded City Code excerpts to the CAC members. She said the CAC should respond with any comments to implement into the code revision.

- **Tree/Sidewalks Conflict Solutions**

Ms. Boyle said there are several property owners who want to plant trees within the City of Newburgh. She said a lot of them are requesting assistance from the CAC.

Mr. Thomas said the CAC should assist property owners by providing trees for planting. He said the CAC should consider other areas around the City for tree planting.

The CAC discussed the protocol regarding tree planting requests from property owners. It was determined that the CAC would provide trees for planting to property owners so long as they obtained the applicable permits and followed the Streetscape Standards for planting.

The CAC will provide approximately five (5) trees to Atlas Industries for planting if the Applicant agrees to obtain the applicable permits and follow the Streetscape Standards for planting.

Motion by: Alison Filosa
Seconded by: Karen Eberle-McCarthy
The motion passed unanimously.

The CAC will provide the requested trees to Zachary Ruttenberg for planting if the Applicant agrees to obtain the applicable permits and follow the Streetscape Standards for planting.

Motion by: Genie Abrams
Seconded by: Alison Filosa

The motion passed unanimously.

The CAC will provide the requested trees to Jeffrey Link for planting if the Applicant agrees to obtain the applicable permits and follow the Streetscape Standards for planting.

Motion by: Genie Abrams
Seconded by: Alison Filosa
The motion passed unanimously.

- **Community Education Report**

Mr. Barrick said the next meeting of the Newburgh Clean Water Project will be on July 27 at the Ritz Theater from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. he encouraged the public to attend.

The CAC members voted to show public support to the Newburgh Clean Water Project and provide a link to the website.

Motion by: Chuck Thomas
Seconded by: Genie Abrams
The motion passed unanimously.

- **Parks – Park Conservancy Meeting**

Ms. Fulton said the meetings fall on the first Friday of the month at the Gritworks on Broadway.

Ms. Abrams read the Greater Newburgh Parks Conservancy (The Conservancy) mission statement for the benefit of the CAC. She said the Conservancy has not officially been incorporated.

Ms. Filosa said she will forward a summary of the Conservancy minutes to the CAC.

- **CAC Website – Update**

Ms. Boyle said she will schedule a meeting with Ms. Abrams to finalize the website revision.

- **2019 Urban Forestry Conference (Overview)**

Mr. Thomas thanked the CAC members for their efforts. He said the Urban Forestry Conference was very informative and that experts are warning the public about the ongoing climate crisis and what needs to be done to address the problem.

6. On-going Natural Resource/Environmental Updates

- **Drinking Water**

Mr. Barrick said he will forward the meeting date for the Department of Defense Restoration Advisory Council.

- **Newburgh Waterfront Updates**

- **Waterfront Trail**

Ms. Boyle said City Staff should be informed that public access to the waterfront is being restricted.

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

Ms. Boyle said City Staff should provide a status update to the people on the plans for the park and waterfront.

- **Energy-related issues**

No update.

7. New Business

- **NYS DEC Urban and Community Forest Grant Information Sessions**

Ms. Boyle said the CAC should be aware of the information sessions in preparation for the Round 15 Grant. She said the next meeting will be on August 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at 83 Broadway.

- **Timeline for FY 2020 Budget**

Mr. Thomas said the hearing date for the CAC budget falls on September 26, 2019. He said the CAC should go over the budget at the next CAC meeting.

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

- 08/08 Resources for Municipalities Battery Energy Storage Systems
- 08/15 NYS DEC Urban and Community Forest Grant Information Sessions
- 08/20 Planning Board Meeting (Public Hearing)
- 09/26 CAC Budget Hearing

RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS FOR JULY (Balbuena)

- Mr. Thomas will contact Manza farms to confirm if they have a replacement plan/deal for the South Williams Street trees; forward the CAC comment letters to the secretary for distribution and look into the New York State Association of Conservation Commissions;
- Ms. Eberle-McCarthy will contact Mr. Powell to confirm a tree planting in memory of Judy Kennedy at Downing Park;
- Ms. Boyle will forward permeable pavement information to the Planning Board; look into the tree canopy cover for open spaces and follow up with Deborah Dresser regarding the usage of the GEM vehicle.
- Ms. Filosa will forward the tree tag information for the City website;
- Ms. Abrams will meet with Ms. Boyle to finalize the City website updates;
- CAC members should review the budget requests for the budget hearing on September 16 and forward any tree code comments to Ms. Boyle;
- A CAC representative should attend next Planning Board meeting on August 20, 2019 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Activity Center, 401 Washington Street, Newburgh NY 12550;
- Mr. Barrick said he will forward the meeting date for the Department of Defense Restoration Advisory Council.

9. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Marcel Barrick

Motion Seconded: Genie Abrams

The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL PROJECT REVIEWS*

2019 Project Reviews by CAC

1/3	82 Bridge Street	7/25	297 Grand Street
2/7	43 Beacon Street	7/25	12 Front Street
3/21	260 Liberty Street	7/25	1 S Colden 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