

Conservation Advisory Council | City of Newburgh, New York

The Heritage Center, 123 Grand St., Newburgh, NY 12550

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Council Members:

Chuck Thomas, Chair

Betty Bastidas

Gail Fulton

Robert Sanchez

Andrew Murphy

Ronald Zorrilla



Conservation Advisory Council

Minutes of Meeting

August 1, 2022

6:30 p.m. – Zoom Videoconference

• Roll Call

Present: Chuck Thomas, Chairperson, Gail Fulton, Andrew Murphy,
Robert Sanchez, Ronald Zorrilla, J.K. Gentile, (Secretary)

Absent: Betty Bastidas

Guests: Dave Eylers, Alison Filosa, Kathy Lawrence, Thomas Coleman, Kathryn McKenzie,
Kippy Boyle, Marianne Marichal, Maddie Feaster, Harley Carlock

Meeting called to order 6:32pm

- Environmental Justice Fellowship Update**
 - Thomas Coleman provided an update
- Battery Storage/Danskammer presentation**

Harley Carlock and Maddie Feaster from Scenic Hudson appeared before the Council.

Ms. Carlock presented a slide show and an overview of Danskammer: Alternatives for a Sustainable Energy Future. She explained how the site has operated and the proposal for their new plant and showed statistics on the projected emissions of the new plant.

Ms. Carlock presented their proposal for an alternative method of energy; a battery storage facility.

Ms. Feaster spoke about a presentation that will take place at the Newburgh Free Library August 11, 2022 from 6:45-7:30pm.

- **Citizen Pruner Workshop presentation**

Kippy Boyle appeared before the Council and gave an overview of the workshop. The workshop is limited to 15 people and is a 7-hour course. Upon completion of the workshop, one receives Certificate of Completion as a CAC-approved volunteer.

The Chairperson asked for a consensus from the Council Members regarding engaging in this initiative. All members were in support.

The Chairperson deemed this initiative of the sub-committee, “Urban Forest Group” led by Mr. Sanchez.

Administration

- Consulting Arborist Report -Dave Eylers

Mr. Eylers gave an update on citizen calls. He said he has completed 7 tree risk assessments. He said he is maintaining a list for DPW for Ash trees, what trees require removal and what trees require treatment, tree stump removals, dead trees from the tree inventory. He said he will compile a list of 14 locations where to plant shade trees.

Mr. Sanchez spoke about Mr. Eylers Ash Injection Tree Program and 14 trees have been identified. He asked if the Council could vote to treat the 14 trees.

Mr. Eylers said the total cost would be \$1,750. and the treatment lasts for two-years.

The Council reviewed the “Recommended Street Tree List for the City of Newburgh”. Recommendations were to change the title to “Approved Street Tree List for the City of Newburgh” and add a column for “flowering trees”,

The Chairperson made a motion to adopt “Approved Street Tree List for the City of Newburgh”

Gail Futon seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of April, May and June minutes

The Chairperson made a motion to approve the April, May and June meeting minutes, subject to changes specified by The Chairperson.

Ronald Zorrilla seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

- Monthly Financial Report

No current expenses to record.

- Volunteer Hours -tracking and reporting

Council members unable to update hours onto the existing google spreadsheet.

Mr. Zorrilla to update settings and re-share the spreadsheet.

- Rescheduling of the CAC September meeting

The Council agreed to September 6, 2022.

- **Old Business**

Ellis Avenue Site Plan review and submitted CAC Comment letter follow up

- **New Business**

Street Tree Permits

The Chairperson expressed the importance of submitting a permit for approval by the CAC before a tree is planted. He is hoping the language is approved by City Council for placement into the City Code.

Renovation project at First and Liberty Street

The Chairperson spoke about the removal of all the original Bluestone sidewalk to be replaced with stamped, dyed concrete.

- **On-going Updates**

- Restoration Advisory Board /Stewart Air National Guard Water Project

The Chairperson said discussions have been about the appropriate disposal of the GAK material (medium used to filter the water)

- Natural Resource Inventory (NRI/Open Spaces)
Mr. Zorrilla asked the Council if a “Climate Ready Community” sub-committee could be created.
The Chairperson made a motion to include “Climate Ready Community” as a sub-committee.
Robert Sanchez seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously

- LWRP Update – Locally Adopted on 7-10-17
No update.

- EPA Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities
Mr. Zorrilla said no updates. They are still looking for volunteers to have the indoor equipment to conduct the study.

- **Calendar of Upcoming events (webinars, training, community events)**

- 08-08-22 City Council Meeting
- 08-09-22 Architectural Review Council Meeting
- 08-10-22 Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting -no meeting in August
- 08-16-22 Planning Board Meeting
- 08-23-22 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

Gail Fulton made Motion to Adjourn

Andrew Murphy seconded

The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting concluded 8:39pm