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
Andrew Murphy, Treasurer
Ronald Zorrilla, Incoming Chair

Conservation Advisory Council

Minutes of Meeting
December 5, 2022
6:30 p.m. – Heritage Center (123 Grand Street)

- **Roll Call**

Present: **Chuck Thomas, Chairperson, Betty Bastidas, Andrew Murphy, Ronald Zorrilla**

Also Present: **Tallie Carter, Assistant Corporation Counsel**
J.K. Gentile, Secretary

Absent: **Gail Fulton**

Guests: **Kathy Lawrence, Monserrat Medina, Marianne Marichal, Kippy Boyle**

Meeting called to order 6:36 p.m.

Environmental Justice Fellowship Update

Monserrat Medina spoke on her interest and engagement with the Environmental Justice Fellowship and gave a brief description of her experience so far. Ms. Medina is particularly interested in promotion and marketing the Fellowship.

Kathy Lawrence said the Environmental Justice Fellowship has one more scheduled event, their final presentation to the City Council on December 12, 2022. She said it will involve a year end video, a slide presentation and a written report.

Ms. Lawrence said that Scenic Hudson is willing to support maintenance, training and community engagement for the Environmental Justice Fellows. She said Scenic Hudson has earmarked $18-20,000. towards planting street trees.

Administration

- Consulting Arborist Report -Dave Eylers -Tabled to next meeting.

- Approval of November 7, 2022 meeting minutes accepted subject to the submitted changes.

- Monthly Financial Report by Treasurer Andrew Murphy
  No new expenses to report.

- Volunteer Hours -tracking and reporting.

- CAC Member terms and appointments
  The Chairperson informed the Council that Mr. Sanchez has resigned from the CAC. He said there are now 2 new seats are open for the Conservation Advisory Committee. He said that applications have been received and will be reviewed and that the appointments will be voted in at the December 12, 2022 City Council meeting.

- Rescheduling the January meeting. Council agreed to Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

- The CAC members are in receipt of Scenic Hudson's Inventory Assessment and Improvement Guide of the City of Newburgh parks.

- Tree City Application is due December 16, 2022. Mr. Zorrilla to follow up.

Old Business

- DEC Urban & Community Grant -Broadway Pits
  The Chairperson gave a review of the conclusion of this grant.
  He said the final report is due to the DEC on December 16, 2022.
  He said the presentation to the City Council will be scheduled in January 2023.

New Business

- Quassaick Creek Greenway Project
  The Chairperson asked that an invitation be sent to Gita Nandan to join the January CAC meeting.

- DEC Natural Resource Inventory Grant
  Ronald Zorrilla gave an update and presented the submitted timeline and draft RFP. He said they will be scheduling a meeting with the Estuary staff. He said a draft RFP was sent to the City Planning and Development department.

- DEC Urban & Community Forestry (UCF) Grant
  The Chairperson said there was not enough time to apply for this grant.

- EPA Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities
  Mr. Zorrilla said the CAC is awaiting next steps. He said we would assist in community outreach and that the Environmental Justice Fellows will be participating.

On-going Updates

- Newburgh Climate Ready sub-committee
  Mr. Zorrilla said the mayor put out a resolution in support of the State scoping plan. Ms. Bastidas gave an overview of current status. She said there are 122 actions the city can take. She said on December 3, 2022 the City's Code Enforcement Supervisor participated in an Energy and Code Enforcement Training. The Council discussed the process of developing a task force,

- Restoration Advisory Board /Stewart Air National
  Guard Water Project
  No current update.

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

Upcoming events:

- Recycle your Christmas Tree event. The Council discussed setting the date of January 7, 2023. Kippy Boyle discussed speaking with DPW/George Garrison, the Recreation Center for use of the Activity

Center, submission of an event permit, submission of press releases and ordering of signs.

Public Forum:

Marianne Marichal requested a public forum be a part of every CAC agenda.

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

- 12-12-22 City Council Meeting
- 12-12-22 Environmental Justice Fellows present to the City Council
- 12-13-22 Architectural Review Council Meeting
- 12-14-22 Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting
- 12-20-22 Planning Board Meeting
- 12-26-22 City Council Meeting
- 12-27-22 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

Ronald Zorrilla made Motion to Adjourn
Betty Bastidas seconded
The motion passed unanimously.
Meeting concluded 8:19 p.m.