Conservation Advisory Council | City of Newburgh, New York
The Heritage Center, 123 Grand St., Newburgh, NY 12550
Phone: (845) 569-7383 e-mail: conservation@cityofnewburgh-ny.gov

Council Members:
Chuck Thomas, Chair
Ronald Zorrilla, Incoming Chairperson
Andrew Murphy, Treasurer
Betty Bastidas
Gail Fulton
Marianne Marichal
Mark Sanchez-Potter

Conservation Advisory Council

Minutes of Meeting
March 6, 2023
6:30 p.m. – Heritage Center (123 Grand Street)

- **Roll Call**

Present: **Chuck Thomas, Chairperson, Betty Bastidas, Gail Fulton, Marianne Marichal, Ronald Zorrilla**

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

Guests: **Jonathan Midler, City Planner**

Absent: **Andrew Murphy, Mark Sanchez-Potter**

Meeting called to order 6:36 p.m.

- **Public Comment on Agenda Items**
  None

Administration

- Approval of minutes -February 6, 2023
  Minutes accepted as written.

- CAC 2022 Annual Report
  The committee reviewed the draft report submitted by the Chairperson at the February 6, 2023 meeting.

The Assistant Corporation Counsel reviewed each activity listed in the report with the committee to prepare the report for presentation to the City Council and to set a template for an Annual Report in the years ahead. The review consisted of activity clarification and identified necessary additions and revisions where appropriate. The draft will be revised for further review and approval.

- CAC 2023 Action Plan and Budget Schedule
  Report submitted for committee review.
  The scheduling of a special meeting was discussed to approve and adopt an action plan and budget schedule.
  The committee decided on March 22, 2023 at 6:30p.m. to be held at the Heritage Center, 123 Grand Street.

- Environmental Justice Fellows 2023 Plan & Budget
  A budget was submitted at the February 2023 CAC meeting.
  All the line items were reviewed and discussed by the committee.

  Marianne Marichal made a motion to approve the budget proposal as outlined in the reviewed document and forward to legal for review and approval.
  Gail Fulton seconded the motion.
  The motion passed unanimously.

- Monthly Financial Report
  The Treasurer was not present for an update.
  There were no financial activities that took place within the month of February 2023.
  The committee discussed setting up a new subscription due date for Davey Tree Keeper software.

- Volunteer Hours -tracking and reporting
  Committee discussed updating the tracking sheet for efficient reporting of the hours and activities performed by the members.

Projects
None.

On-going Updates

- DEC Natural Resource Inventory Grant -RFP & Utilization Plan -status
  The City Planner reviewed the Upcoming Timeframe and To-Do List for the NRI Sub-Committee as an orientation to the process that will be used for the project.

- Newburgh Climate Ready sub-committee
  Betty Bastidas said the process to invite interested parties to the task force is dependent on an approved resolution. The Assistant Corporation Counsel said a draft resolution is pending and the goal is presentation to City Council at an early April 2023 meeting.

- Urban Forest Update
  Marianne Marichal said the Tree City USA Growth Award application has been submitted. She said George Profeus/DEC has confirmed receipt. She said she has submitted a 2023 Arbor Day proclamation request to the Executive Office. She said the event permits for Arbor Day and River Sweep will be submitted to the City Clerk's office.

  The Assistant Corporation Counsel asked about the 2024 tree planting plan. The Chairperson said 9 trees proposed on Broadway, 11 trees proposed on Wisner Avenue and 10 trees proposed on Renwick Street. The Chairperson said the committee looks to work with an arborist to determine the locations to plant the balance of trees budgeted for. The Assistant Corporation Counsel requested a spreadsheet outlining this information including tree species, site locations and proposed schedule. Tallie Carter also stated: DPW is funded to hire a part time arborist who will not likely start until the summer 2023. The CAC's consulting arborist will be hired before DPW arborist. The plan is the committee's arborist will work with DPW's arborist. It will be determined at budget time whether the CAC needs a consulting arborist or to hire a full time arborist with the DPW in 2024.

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

- Restoration Advisory Board /Stewart Air National Guard Water Project
  The Assistant Corporation Counsel would like to view the quarterly meeting agenda in advance of these meetings to establish talking points on behalf of the City's representation.

New Business

Old Business

- NYSERDA Grant
  Presenting to City Council for review March 13, 2023 and is due to submit March 14, 2023.

- DEC Urban & Community Grant -Broadway Pits
  The Chairperson said he presented the final report at the City Council work session February 9, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. with Marianne Marichal.

Upcoming events:

- Arbor Day planting Friday April 28, 2023
- River Sweep Saturday May 6, 2023
- Environmental Justice Fellows begin again April 2023

Public Forum
None

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

- 03-08-23 Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting
- 03-10-23 Newburgh Parks Conservancy Meeting
- 03-13-23 City Council Meeting
- 03-14-23 Architectural Review Council Meeting
- 03-16-23 Tree City USA Community Recognition Event – Vassar College
- 03-20-23 Newburgh Arts & Cultural Commission Meeting
- 03-21-23 Planning Board Meeting
- 03-27-23 City Council Meeting
- 03-28-23 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

Ronald Zorrilla made Motion to Adjourn
Gail Fulton seconded
The motion passed unanimously.
Meeting concluded 8:35 p.m.