

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 October 17, 2019 – 6:30 PM

1. Roll Call

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

Guests: Naomi Hersson-Ringskog, Ryan Lennon

2. Administration

- **Approval of Minutes from September meeting**
The September minutes were approved.

Motion by: Genie Abrams
Seconded by: Marcel Barrick
The motion passed unanimously.

- **Monthly Financial Report**
Ms. Boyle submitted a receipt for reimbursement in the amount of \$58.98 and submitted the TreeKeeper subscription invoice for discussion.

Mr. Thomas said it is very important to renew the subscription.

The CAC members agreed to renew the subscription.

Mr. Barrick said he will submit an invoice for a water tank later.

- **Submit Monthly Volunteer Hours**
CAC members submitted their volunteer hours to Ms. Fulton.

The Chairperson moved the Mount Saint Mary Program and Forest Cover Change items forward on the agenda.

Mount Saint Mary College Civic Internship/Fellowship Program

Ms. Abrams gave a brief overview of the program. She said the program is meant to provide students a meaningful opportunity to gain real-life skills while boosting civic capacity and engagement in the City of Newburgh. She said the program will begin in 2020 and one (1) intern will be supervised by the Chairperson of the CAC or the appropriate subcommittee of the CAC as approved by the Chairperson.

The Chairperson said a member of the CAC may oversee the program as the head of a new sub-committee. He asked who would be willing to oversee the program intern.

The CAC discussed their availability. Ms. Abrams said she is open to the position. Ms. Hersson-Ringskog said she will be able to provide assistance on the program.

The CAC agreed to the Mount Saint Mary College Civic Internship/Fellowship program and approved the sub-committee directed by Ms. Abrams. The intern will be overseen/directed by Ms. Abrams and Ms. Hersson-Ringskog.

Motion by: Chuck Thomas
Seconded by: Marcel Barrick
The motion passed unanimously.

Forest Cover Change in Newburgh

Mr. Lennon gave a brief overview of the forest cover change in Newburgh. He said there was a significant loss in forest cover and the data on the maps suggest development was the main driver of the forest cover loss. He said there are several impacts on the environment and he is currently reviewing the impact on vegetation phenology.

Mr. Barrick said the City of Newburgh has lost a significant percentage of forest cover due to property owners clear-cutting trees.

Mr. Lennon said he can review and provide data on forest cover change for the City of Newburgh.

Mr. Barrick said he can provide a shape file for use.

Ms. Hersson-Ringskog asked if a map on temperature change can be obtained and if it has a significant impact on the City.

Mr. Lennon said the heat island effect is most notable in New York City and causes fluctuations in the arrival/departure of the seasons by about a couple weeks.

3. Site Plan Reviews

- **The Regal Bag / Water Street Development Project (Updated)**

The CAC reviewed the revised Coast Assessment Form and confirmed it was consistent with the LWRP.

The CAC discussed recommending a bike lane/stop.

The Chairperson said he will forward a revised comment letter to the Planning Board for consideration.

4. CAC Priority Projects

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

No update.

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

No update.

- **Urban Forestry**

- **Fall Planting / Tree List Update**

Ms. Boyle said the tree planting system needs to be revised to streamline the process for property owners. She said Atlas Industries has already purchased the trees for planting and the CAC should reimburse them. She asked if there are additional arborists able to assist with the planting process.

Ms. Filosa said Bryan Quinn may be able to provide assistance.

- **City Arborist (Dead Dykeman)**

The Secretary said Dean Dykeman reached out to the CAC to offer his services. He asked the CAC if they would be interested in inviting him to the next CAC meeting.

The CAC members agreed to invite Mr. Dykeman to the next CAC meeting.

- **S. William St. Grant Status**

Ms. Boyle highlighted photographs of the tree planting process.

- **Code Revisions for Trees**

No update.

- **Community Education Report**

Ms. Abrams said the intern may help spread CAC information to the general public.

- **Parks – Park Conservancy Meeting**

No update.

- **CAC Website – Update**

The Secretary said the TreeKeeper Software Support Team contacted him with training opportunities and confirmed the general public is able to view the NRI online. He said he will add a link to the CAC website to allow the public to view the NRI.

5. On-going Natural Resource/Environmental Updates

- **Drinking Water**

Mr. Barrick said the deadline to submit the volunteer forms to the Department of Defense for the Restoration Advisory Committee is on November 7, 2019. He said anyone interested should apply. He said the City will obtain its drinking water from Browns pond around November.

- **Newburgh Waterfront Updates**

- **Waterfront Trail**

No update.

- **South Street Park; Fishing Pier & First Street Walkway/Newburgh Landing Restoration**
No update.

- **Energy-related issues**
No update.

6. New Business

- **New Grant**

Ms. Boyle said there is a new grant available from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

The CAC discussed the grant possibilities and decided to move forward with a project to plant trees along Broadway. The project will be called “Greening Broadway.

Ms. Boyle said the application deadline is on December 4, 2019. She said she will reach out to the City regarding the new grant.

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

- 11/07 Restoration Advisory Council public interest form deadline
- 11/19 City of Newburgh Planning Board Meeting (Public Hearing)

RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS FOR OCTOBER (Balbuena)

- The Secretary will:
 - Follow up with the TreeKeeper Software Support Team for a link to the NRI;
 - Submit invoices for payment/reimbursement;
 - Forward Master Plan;
- Ms. Filosa will contact Bryan Quinn to determine if he can plant trees;
- Mr. Barrick will forward an invoice for the water tank;
- Ms. Abrams fill contact Mr. Dykeman regarding his resume for tree planting;
- Ms. Boyle will discuss the new grant with the City;
- CAC should propose alternative meeting dates;

8. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Gail Fulton
 Motion Seconded: Marcel Barrick
 The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 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		

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