



Kingston Conservation Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting, City Hall Conference Room 1
MINUTES

Date: January 13, 2015 6:30-8:30pm

Call to Order: 6:35 pm

Council Members:

Julie Noble (Chair)
Elizabeth Broad (unable to attend)
Emilie Hauser
Lynn Johnson
Kevin McEvoy (Secty)
Casey Schwarz
Gregg Swanzey (unable to attend)

Guests:

Matt Akin, SUNY New Paltz Intern,
Barbara Epstein

- I. Welcome Guests and Public Comment (5 min):** The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:35PM and welcomed guests Matt Akin, Barbara Epstein. There was no public comment.
- II. Review and Approval December 2014 Meeting Minutes (5 min):** Upon motion made by Casey and seconded by Lynn, the Minutes to the December meeting as amended were approved unanimously by those present.
- III. Secretary Election:** Upon motion duly made by Emilie and seconded by Lynn, Kevin McEvoy was re-elected CAC Secretary by a 4-0 vote with Kevin abstaining.
- IV. Old Business**
 - a. Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)**
 - i. SUNY New Paltz Intern update:** Julie and Emilie met with Matt Akin just prior to this meeting to review the scope of his internship with respect to the NRI. Julie, Emilie and Matt indicated that 16 hours per week would be needed to review the general scope (1/3 of such time to review resources), work plan including mapping (2/3) and putting together a draft document with text and interpretation for NRI (3/3), with the entire assignment taking 16-20 weeks. The Rosendale NRI format with basemaps was discussed as an existing model to follow for the Kingston NRI with the possibility to add sections for Coastal and Significant Shoreline Habitats including SAV beds, environmentally constrained lands taken from the Kingston 2025 Comprehensive Plan and including Steep Slopes and Brownfields within the Geology, Soils and Topography sections. Additionally, it was discussed that Ground Water and Well Water included in the Rosendale NRI can be deleted and combined with Surface Waters. Other sections include Biological Communities (refer to Habitat Map & Summary), Land Use (Zoning, Protected Lands, Agricultural including Urban Agriculture), Historic, Cultural & Recreational, Scenic Resources, Environmental Justice Areas (federally designated), Green Infrastructure (as defined from Climate Action Plan) and buffer zones in adjoining towns. A mapping layer wish list included renewables, bluestone and street trees.
 - ii. Next Steps:** Matt will start work with review by Emilie, Julie and the CAC members as an action item.
 - b. Scoping:** Joint Meeting: Overview of Web-Based Planning Tools and CAC NRI Update is to be held on January 22 in the City Hall Council Chamber from 6:00-7:30 PM. Topics to be covered include web based planning tools, the county parcel viewer, update on the Kingston NRI. The County presentation will take the first hour with Dennis Doyle, Amanda Lavelle, and either Tom Hynes, Rob Liebowitz or Rick Umble as presenters giving a truncated version of their presentation to EMC (info avail at UC

website) with discussion to include the revised Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) and form based codes. From 7 to 7:30, a CAC update for planning will be presented with Laura Heady to be available with topics to include creating an NRI, habitat and biodiversity analysis for planning boards, the Guidebook for Communities in the HRE Watershed, Habitat Summary and Mapping for Kingston, and the Preliminary Review of Open Space and Natural Resources in the City of Kingston primarily authored by Emilie.

- c. **Draft Hudson Landing Open Space Management Plan:** Tabled awaiting revised document.

V. New Business

- a. **Meeting dates for 2015,** Scheduled dates for 2015 are the second Tuesday with option for 1st & 3rd Wed, 2nd Thursday if necessary. No action was taken to change the date except for February as per a doodle poll.
- b. **CAC Committee Liaisons:** The Council accepted volunteers to establish liaisons for 2015 to various governmental bodies. As action items, Casey will remain as liaison to the Planning Board, Emilie at the County EMC and Lynn at Common Council Public Safety, replacing Diane who has retired from the Council. Kevin also serves on Heritage Area Commission and reviews matters with Landmarks regularly.
- c. **2015 Planning:** After brief mention of the subtopics below, a motion to table the matter was made by Casey, seconded by Emile and approved unanimously by those council members present.
 - i. 2015 Goals and Priorities
 - ii. 2015 Budget
 - iii. 2015 Communications Timeline
- d. **CAC Membership:** Emilie and Julie are conducting outreach for new members including trying to diversify the membership.
- e. **CAC Annual Report:** The CAC is reviewing and make revisions to the annual report.

VI. Announcements/Communications:

- a. **Climate Smart Communities Regional Roundtable:** Roundtable scheduled for City Hall on Feb 5 3-6PM
- b. **Enterococcus:** Mention was made of an article in the Poughkeepsie Journal on high enterococcus counts in the Hudson River.
- c. **Yardworks:** Yardworks Kick off expected in February.
- d. **New City Website:** Julie gave a brief overview of the new City of Kingston website discussing that while the old website is still online with the domain renewed much of the content and resources have been moved to the City website

VII. Reports (20 min)

- a. **Communications Working Sub-Committee/ Social Media (Vacancy):** Tabled
- b. **EMC Liaison (Emilie Hauser):** Julie and Kevin reported on the December EMC meeting which included discussions on the Emerald Ash Borer and the Pilgrim Pipeline. Betta also attended.
- c. **Planning Board Liaison (Casey Schwarz):** Casey indicated that the January meeting was cancelled.
- d. **Public Safety Liaison (Vacancy):** Pilgrim resolution presented at the December meeting was approved.
- e. **Comprehensive Plan Liaison (Gregg Swanzey/Julie Noble):** Comprehensive Plan meeting with public release of draft plan presently scheduled for January 29.
- f. **Ad Hoc Water Bottling Committee (Kevin McEvoy, Julie Noble, Gregg Swanzey):** Tabled pending scoping and/or further information

VIII. Adjournment:

At 9:36 pm upon motion by Casey, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Mission: Ensure the conservation of the City of Kingston's natural resources and the enhancement and protection of its environment while fostering unified action on environmental matters.