



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

Date: February 26, 2015 6:30-8:30pm

Council Members

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

Guests:

Matt Akin, Intern
Lauren Laibach
Caitlin Zinsley

- I. **Welcome Guests and Public Comment:** Call to Order at 6:30pm by Acting Chairwoman Emilie Hauser was followed by a brief introduction by the guests and the CAC.
- II. **Review and Approval January 13, 2015 Meeting Minutes as amended:** Upon motion duly made by Casey and seconded by Lynn, the council members present unanimously approved the January 13 2015 Meeting Minutes as amended.
- III. **Review and Approval January 22 2015 Meeting Minutes:** Upon motion duly made by Casey and seconded by Lynn, the council members present unanimously approved the Minutes as amended to the January 22 2015 special meeting between the Kingston Planning Board and the CAC with a special presentation on the use of technology and the Ulster County Parcel Viewer in planning by County staff members, together with a Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) overview and update by Emilie and a presentation by Laura Heady including an overview and summary of work to date regarding the Kingston Habitat Summary and Mapping she and Hudsonia recently completed together with general planning recommendations with regards to habitat and natural areas.
- IV. **Old Business**
 1. **CAC Membership:** prospective new Council Members : Lauren Laibach discussed her college background in environmental matters and more recent work with NAPCOR (National Association for PET Container Resources) including recycling and solid waste management. Caitlin Zinsley discussed her college background and more recent work at Hudson River Estuary Program and Ashokan Center; A brief closed session for discussion was followed by a motion duly made by Lynn and seconded by Casey recommending the two new

applicants for council membership with the council members present unanimously approving recommendation of the applicants.

2. **CAC 2014 Annual Report adoption:** Upon motion duly made by Casey and seconded by Lynn, the council members present unanimously adopted CAC 2014 Annual Report with the addition of the professional development training taken by 3 members: *Technology in Planning and Environmental Analysis*, sponsored by Ulster County Planning, held on June 9, 2014.
3. **Comprehensive Plan Input Coordination:** It was noted that a Public meeting is to be held on March 19, 2015 with written comments accepted until 3-26-15. As an action item, the council members will review the plan and coordinate comments. Link: <http://www.kingston-ny.gov/2025>
4. **2015 Planning Goals and Priorities:** Tabled following brief discussion.
5. **Natural Resources Inventory (NRI):** Matt Akin reviewed several maps and mapping layers including wetlands and water resource layers showing different possible layer options. Matt, Emilie and the council discussed goals and objectives, reviewed data and gaps in data. Layers and topics discussed included rail lines, color schemes, and additional data such as historic/cultural data including historic mines and quarries, stream mapping, trail mapping, flood mapping, viewsheds and local data sets unique to Kingston. No motion was made or resolution presented on the final list of maps. As action items, the Council will plan for a public input meeting during the regularly schedule April 2015 CAC meeting, share the MS Excel list of maps on the Google Drive with the council, Kevin will provide Matt with data he has for possible inclusion and Matt may write a description of the maps which may be considered for incorporation into the NRI text. A timeline of Matt's internship indicated his work will wrap up in early May.

V. New Business

1. **PCB Dredging on the Hudson River, Communication for Resolution :** County Legislator Manna Jo Greene gave a report at the February 2015 Environmental Management Council (EMC) on General Electric's dredging operations in the Hudson River and Champlain Canal, anticipating it will complete its limited dredging operations in 2015 and presumably will begin dismantling its multi-million dollar infrastructure constructed for the dredging and dewatering of contaminated sediments. The CAC had previously been sent a request from Manna Jo requesting that a resolution be passed by communities in Ulster County and the Hudson Valley, A version of which was passed by the County Legislature as Resolution 10 of 2015 in January (See link below). Upon motion made by Lynn and seconded by Emilie, the Council members present approved that said the resolution on PCB dredging in the Hudson River be presented to the Kingston Common Council.
http://ulstercountyny.gov/sites/default/files/10-15_1.pdf
2. **Hudson River Port:** The Hudson River Port presentation held on 2-24-15 in the Kingston Common Council Chamber at City Hall was reviewed. Several CAC members attended. The Hudson River Port Draft Vision Plan Map handout from the presentation was circulated. Comments on the scoping document for the

SEQRA Generic Environmental Impact Statement close on March 10, 2015. Comments on the Hudson Riverport Vision Plan will be accepted until August 8, 2015. See links to Vision Plan Map and Scoping Document below:
<http://www.kingston-ny.gov/filestorage/8463/8511/8682/8690/HudsonRiverportVisionPlan-Draft-02-18-2015.pdf>

<http://www.kingston-ny.gov/filestorage/8463/8511/8682/8690/KingstonBOA-DraftScopingDocument-02-12-2015.pdf>

V. Announcements/Communications

1. **Cary Institute:** Emma Rosi-Marshall, a freshwater ecologist at the Cary Institute, will discuss her research on how pharmaceutical drugs and personal care products are polluting our nation's rivers and streams—with consequences for sensitive aquatic life and drinking water supplies on 2-27-15 at 7PM (See link below).
<http://www.caryinstitute.org/events/our-rivers-drugs>
2. **Women & Climate Change Summit;** This event will be held on 3-6-15 at 9:30 AM at the Wallace Center at FDR Library in Hyde Park. Judith Enck, Environmental Protection Agency Region 2 (EPA Administrator, to speak at the introduction. Julie Noble to give a Climate Smart Community Spotlight presentation on Kingston.
<http://www.nps.gov/elro/planyourvisit/event-details.htm?eventID=574906-232573>
3. **Solarized:** Betta will provide solarized information at the next meeting.

VI. Reports

1. **EMC Liaison** (Emilie Hauser): At the 2-25-15 Environmental Management Council meeting Creek Week and the Hudson Valley Ramble were discussed as scheduled for September 2015. A polystyrene foam ban resolution (proposed last year as LL12 of 2014) was discussed including a proposed ban of take out food containers. The Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) vehicle retrofit proposal (Ulster County Legislature Resolution 314A of 2014) was vetoed by County Executive Hein (see following).
http://ulstercountyny.gov/sites/default/files/314A-14_1.pdf
2. **Planning Board Liaison** (Casey Schwarz): No items to report.
3. **Public Safety Liaison** (Lynn Johnson): Lynn reported that Council Member Brad Will discussed banning plastic check out bags but different council members had varying opinions regarding a ban and plastic bag recycling options. Council Member Will indicated that such a ban would be consistent with the principles and advocacy of the CAC and would follow elements of the Climate Smart Pledge. As an action item, Lynn will distribute information received from Council Member Will to the CAC. Lynn also reported on a presentation by Rebecca Martin and Jennifer Schwartz Berky and an ensuing discussion on water management for which a handout was provided that Lynn circulated among the Council. No motions were made and no resolutions were presented.

4. **Comprehensive Plan Liaison** (Julie Noble): March 19 meeting is scheduled with March 26 close of comment (See Old Business Item 3 above).
5. **Ad Hoc Water Bottling Committee** (Kevin McEvoy, Julie Noble, Gregg Swanzey): Tabled due to withdrawal of Niagara Bottling application.

VII. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 9:25 PM.