



**Kingston Conservation Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting Final Minutes
Kingston City Hall Conference Room 1
Date: July 11, 2017 6:30-9:30**

Council Members Elizabeth Broad, Lorraine Farina, Emilie Hauser (Vice-Chair), Lynn Johnson (not present), Kevin McEvoy (Secretary), Julie Noble (Chair), Casey Schwarz

Common Council Liaison: Rennie Scott-Childress

- I. Welcome Guests and Public Comment:** The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. There was no public comment at this time.
- II. Modifications to the Agenda:** There were no modifications to the agenda.
- III. Review and Approval June 2017 Monthly Meeting Minutes:** Upon motion made by Casey and seconded by Emilie, the minutes to the June meeting as amended were unanimously approved by the council members present.
- IV. Old Business**
 - 1. NRI/Open Space Project Update:** The Chairperson reported on a recent discussion with John Mickelson, Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) consultant. John expects to attend the next meeting and have a draft open space index and some draft language. The contract with Behan Planning for the Open Space Plan is not signed yet and under review by the Corporation Counsel and the City Purchasing Agent. Kevin reported on Matt Akin updating the historic mapping and his draft interpretation of geology mapping for Kingston Land Trust. The Council discussed the recreation map and the need for clarification on what John needs. Heat island mapping was also discussed. Emilie provided the following links regarding urban heat islands: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/303365724_Interactions_between_urban_vegetation_and_surface_urban_heat_islands_A_case_study_in_the_Boston_metropolitan_region <http://www.esri.com/esri-news/arcnews/summer17/articles/visualize-the-changing-planet-with-new-landsat-explorer-web-app>
 - 2. Wood Burning/Air Quality Sub Committee:** Lorraine provided to the Council the proposed revisions to the proposed to the Mayor's message and information for the City website. The Chairperson reported that website will be updated soon. Lorraine contacted Bldg. Safety staff regarding permits for new wood burning devices especially whether there are any statistics as to new installations of wood burning devices in the City. Bldg. Safety staff responded to Lorraine that since 2004, there were 126 permits issued, and 102 "closed out". Lorraine discussed funding sources and charitable giving requirements from local banks regarding smoke monitoring devices as well as the Volkswagon settlement with and possible DEC funding regarding nitrous oxide measurement, which is produced by wood smoke with a view towards mitigation. It was discussed that any funding application would have to be made by the City. Lorraine will continue with research and reporting to the Council as a CAC action item.
 - 3. Zoning Code Review discussion:** The Chair, Emilie, Lynn and Kevin all attended the meeting on June 29th. The council members discussed the consultant's presentation together with the Mayor's comments and question and answer period immediately following the presentation and will continue to follow the matter and provide appropriate input as an action item. The consultants presentation is available on the City website: <https://kingston->

[ny.gov/filestorage/8399/17321/17331/17921/CP Zoning PPT Presentation June 29 2017.pdf](http://ny.gov/filestorage/8399/17321/17331/17921/CP_Zoning_PPT_Presentation_June_29_2017.pdf)

4. **2017 Conference on the Environment:** The Chair spoke with the County Environmental Management Council and County Dept. of the Environment and has received responses for a call for presenters and sponsors. Dates are November 3 and 4th, 2017. Link to the conference is below: <http://www.nysaccny.org/2017-conference-on-the-environment>
 5. **City Grant Applications:** The City is applying for a DEC grant for \$50,000 for River Access due July 12 to cover proposed ADA improvements at Kingston Point Beach. The Chairperson reviewed possibilities for Consolidated Funding Application grant submissions due July 28. The CAC will review letters of support as an action item.
- V. **New Business: PCBs in Hudson River:** On June 1, 2017, EPA released for public comment its second five-year review report for the Hudson River PCBs Superfund site. The next meeting is scheduled for July 19 in Saratoga Springs, NY. Written comments are being accepted until September 1, 2017. Emilie will speak to river communities and Kevin will speak to Scenic Hudson and Riverkeeper as action items. https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-06/documents/hudson_2ndfyr_advisory_commentperiodextension_060817_final.pdf
- VI. **Announcements/Communications/Events**
1. **Drive and Shine:** Betta reported Drive and Shine an electric vehicle event at the Marbletown Community Center and Saturday July 15 1-4pm.
 2. **Mid-Hudson Community Solar Workshop:** Community Solar Event will be held at the Kirkland Hotel on July 11.
 3. **Empire State Trail:** Kevin reported on the Empire State Trail proposed routing in Kingston and site visits to the proposed Hudson Landing Promenade.
 4. **Water Chestnuts:** A presentation on water chestnuts will be held on Wed July 12 at the Hudson River Maritime Museum.
 5. **Greenline:** Kevin gave an update on the O&W Rail Trail section of the Kingston Greenline and floodplain issues.
- VII. **Reports/Updates**
1. **Kingston Sidewalk Task Force (*Lorraine Farina*):** No report this month.
 2. **Planning Board Liaison (*Casey Schwarz*):** Casey attended at the July Planning Board meeting and reported on several matters on the meeting agenda. The Irish Cultural Center has passed SEQRA with a negative declaration and will present at the Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission. St. Clara's Church of God (Point of Praise Church) will be doing a community solar project. There is to be a 25 year lease on the project. The location of the church in the Esopus floodplain was mentioned. The RUPCO project at the former Met Life Building (Stockade Works) was on the agenda with the Planning Board declaring itself lead agency. Also on the agenda was 65-85 East Strand with Joe Hurwitz, architect, presenting. Expansion and future parking at The Hutton Brickyard was also discussed. Some Planning Board documents are available on the City website for some key projects.
 3. **Public Safety Liaison (*Lynn Johnson/Betta Broad*):** Betta spoke on the Paris Climate agreement, which was tabled at the Common Council Public Safety committee.
 4. **Climate Smart Kingston (*Julie Noble*):** The Unified Solar Permit has been approved by NYSERDA. LED streetlights were discussed with a design phase to follow including taking health effects into consideration.
 5. **Ulster County Environmental Management Council Liaison (*Emilie Hauser*):** The CAC Chairperson, Julie Noble, spoke at the meeting regarding the 2017 Conference on the Environment. The anchorages were discussed. County policy on pesticides on County land was discussed together with statewide neighbor notification. Town of Hurley is proceeding with its Open Space Plan. Mention was made of Frank's sedge (*Carex frankii*), a perennial native grass appearing in wetlands listed as endangered in New York State, having been observed at Sleightsburg Spit.

VIII. Adjournment: Upon motion duly made by Casey and seconded by Kevin, the Council unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 9:01pm.

NOTE: The Kingston Conservation Advisory Council makes no representations regarding information from links to any website or from outside source contained herein. This information is provided for reference purposes only.

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.