

Town of Coeymans

Minutes - Conservation Advisory Council

August 9, 2016

Present:

Sylvia Lawler (Chair)
Michael McGuire
John Bonafide
Joseph Tracey

Absent:

Ro Woodard

Also Present: Councilman Dolan

George McHugh, Building Inspector Cashen, Village Trustee Coye, Barbara Heizen

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Mrs. Lawler.

Approve minutes of July meeting:

Motion Mr. Tracey, Second Mr. McGuire

Mr. Bonafide Aye
Mrs. Lawler Aye
Mr. McGuire Aye
Mr. Tracey Aye
Ms. Woodard Absent

Chair Lawler noted the need for the Council to “back-up” a bit based the ongoing learning curve associated with the start-up of the new CAC. She noted that she has learned that one of the first steps to effectively implement the goals of the CAC will be to hold one or more community meetings to:

- Gather information
- Brain-storm what does the community want in their NRI (Similar to Comp Plan development)

Chapter “Two-Getting Started” from the NYS DEC publication, [Creating a Natural Resources Inventory](http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/100925.html) (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/100925.html>) was passed out to members.

Chair Lawler also noted that she will do a presentation to the Town Planning Board on what the CAC and NRI are looking at the September meeting or the August 30th workshop.

Mr. McGuire noted that the applications for the Greenway Grant, which include funding for NRI development, are accepted in September and December. The Grant requires a 50/50 match which can include in-kind services. Mrs. Lawler noted that there would be no town funds available for match.

Mr. McGuire also noted that he has begun the process of getting the CAC on the town web site including information on what the CAC is, its members when and where we meet and any links

or postings we want. We will also be given a CAC email account, which in turn can be linked to our personal email accounts.

Mrs. Lawler noted that we had hoped to get a copy of the New Paltz NRI but there are other more local version we could look at.

She also noted that the idea of Trees for Tribes might be scheduled for Jorolemon Park this fall and that she would speak with the town. It was also discussed that this might be another good opportunity to community input.

Discussion about how the CAC might utilize the County Planning office especially their mapping services.

Question as to whether or not a CAC workshop would be need to prepare for a public meeting.

Mr. Tracey noted that logs and other material had been removed recently from the Onesquethaw Creek near Rowe Road.

There was a discussion on the expansion of the CAC in the future (up to 9 members) with the inclusion of a farming representative and an industrial representative, possibly from LaFarge.

Public Comments:

Mr. McHugh asked as to whether or not the Village of Ravena would be included in the NRI.

Members discussed that the NRI would include the entire town and as town residents villagers would be welcome to participate.

Mr. Coye asked about coordination with the Village Board.

It noted that the CAC was a Council established by Town Government action and is not part of the Village governmental structure. However, if the village Planning or Village Board had specific environmental questions the CAC would do their best to provide comments.

Mr. Dolan noted that this issue was a town to village governmental conversation beyond the scope of the CAC. Mr. Coye noted that he would bring the information back to the Mayor and Board.

Next Meeting September 13 – 6 PM Town Hall

Motion to Adjourn Mr. Tracey, Second Mr. Bonafide

Approved 4 - 0

Meeting Adjourned at 7:00