

Town of Coeymans NRI Project

April 4, 2017

Town Hall, 6:00pm

1. Introductions
 - Full CAC and visiting Also Laurie DeGatano, Ingrid... Tom Dolan, John Bonafide, Philip Crandall, John Parker.
2. Background on Estuary Program/Cornell AAP intern project by Ingrid Haeckel, Conservation and Land Use Specialist NYSDEC
 - AAP = Hudson River Estuary Action Agenda Program?
 - Intern = Andrew graduate student with training in maps will assist from May 22 - sometime in summer
 - The estuary program is a DEC no regulatory program.
 - Began watershed work 15 years ago to build collaborative conservation strategies
 - Focus on NRIs as a starting point
 - i. Created guidebook
 - Do direct technical assistance and foster collaboration
 - They are pleased to provide the GIS component by connecting with Cornell University graduate students
 - There is no cost to the municipality
 - Her role is to facilitate the process and coordinate with the Ithaca based intern. He will come out in person at least twice.
 - We may be able video conference with Andrew via Skype, Webex etc.
 - He has worked on a variety of complex GIS projects.
 - i. Per John Bonafide perhaps he could investigate resiliency as it relates to flooding.
 - The CAC will lease with the local boards and public. The committee with also prepare the final reports.
 - The Town of Rosendale provided a sound model for an NRI per Ingrid and Sylvia.
 - Ingrid will also pull in the available GIS data
3. Discussion of inventory work completed to date, available resources, maps, etc.
 - We are Working towards becoming a can energy community
 - We divided map categories
 - i. We would like to get a digital version of the zoning maps
 - ii. Some community ties report biodiversity, some with street trees, local parks.
 - iii. The habitat summary is a great starting point for the NRI and will be posted on the Town website.
 1. This pulls together rare species data
 2. We can pull some material from DEC GIS Mapper
 3. We are permitted to use the language as plate for plants of the NRI narrative per Ingrid.
 4. We will share the Google sheets map inventory checklist to Ingrid and Laura.
 - iv. An LWRP is available from John Bonafide

- Ingrid noted local information
 - i. Scenic resources
 - ii. Recreation resources
 - iii. Historic resources
 - iv. Check with local clubs connected to environmental concerns
 - v. Also consider Rich Guthrie and Craig Thompson
4. What are the community's goals for project?
- Per Sylvia, we would like to refresh emphasis on comprehensive plan goals, LWRP, and update zoning consistent with these goals
 - Cultivate a conservation based mindset
 - Set regulations to protect waterways for years to come per Phil Crandall Sr
 - Create guidance to town policy
 - i. Provide factual background information that would assist boards in analyzing SEQR process for decisions.
 - Assignment each member will draft a goal statement by April 11 to be consolidated.
 - i. Consider highlights such as Coeymans Creek as mentioned in a PWL, Priority Waterways List per Ingrid.
 - ii. Biology teacher Matt Miller has shared information over many years. Sylvia will collect data from Matt Miller.
 - Reach out to all three boards to help share the products
 - i. What scale map do we want? Large scale or 8.5 x 11 pages
5. Process, timeline, and assignments
- proposed timeline based on intern schedule
 - i. Andrew will start on May 22, and have a 2 week vacation but will work 20 hours a week for 10 weeks.
 - strengths, interests, and skill sets of CAC members and volunteers
 - additional stakeholders to invite?
 - subject matter assignments (teams of 2-3 volunteers)
 - public input needs
 - i. Public meeting at the end of May. May 30
 - ii. Some have created a Facebook Page
6. Next steps and homework
- draft inventory outline (teams work on sections)
 - i. we we discuss more at the May 4 meeting.
 - ii. We have divided the list
 - iii. Suggest data layers
 - draft list of maps for intern to create, desired map format
 - i. Wetlands as there are many omissions
 - ii. The GIS software may be \$1,500
 - compile map data for intern
 - i. Gather material from CT Male (Tom Dolan will follow up
 - agenda and promotion for first public meeting (late May)
 - schedule NRI project meetings through summer

- budget, funding/grant opportunities
 - i. We will consider Greenway grant

Adjourned 8:10 p.m.