TOWN OF EAST GRENBUSH RESOLUTION 42-2018

A Resolution Establishing a Natural Resources Work Group

WHEREAS, a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) compiles and describes naturally occurring resources as well as cultural resources such as historic, scenic and recreation within a municipality; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of an NRI is to provide information for comprehensive land use and conservation planning, and to allow natural resource information to be included in local planning and zoning; the NRI should include maps, associated data detailing information displayed on the maps, a descriptive report summarizing inventoried resources, findings and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, an NRI can be used to update the natural resources section of the comprehensive plan, provide information for watershed assessment and planning, designate critical environmental areas, develop and implement a municipal open space plan, amend existing zoning and subdivision regulations, evaluate the effects of proposed land use and zoning changes, inform environmental review of development proposals, and document current conditions so changes over time can be assessed; and

WHEREAS, the Hudson River Estuary Program in coordination with a Cornell University graduate student intern offers technical assistance to communities interested in creating or updating an NRI at no cost to the municipality by providing guidance to the work group, assistance with data acquisition and management, creation of resource maps, and review of the NRI report; and

WHEREAS, to be eligible for the technical assistance, the municipality should have a work group of 5-6 volunteers who will determine the goals and scope of the project, review existing local studies and data sources, provide input on maps, write and format the NRI report, and liaise with the municipal boards and the public about the project; and

WHEREAS, to be considered for the technical assistance available from the Hudson River Estuary Program, municipalities are required to submit an application listing the volunteers, any land use planning initiatives, and a letter of support from the municipal governing board by March 15, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Town Comptroller has confirmed that this proposed Board action will have no material impact on the Town's finances;

now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby establishes the Natural Resources Work Group, and will advertise for volunteers to participate in the development of a Natural Resources Inventory;

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board expresses their support for the development of the Natural Resources Inventory and authorizes the submission of an application for technical assistance to the Hudson River Estuary Program.

The foregoing resolution was duly moved by Supervisor Conway and seconded by Councilor Warner and brought to a vote resulting as follows:

Supervisor J. Conway	VOTED: YES
Councilor G. Warner	VOTED: YES
Councilor T. Tierney	VOTED: ABSENT
Councilor H. Kennedy	VOTED: YES
Councilor R. Matters	VOTED: YES

Dated: February 21, 2018