



Town of East Greenbush Conservation Advisory Council

TOWN HALL, 225 COLUMBIA TURNPIKE, RENSSELAER, NY 12144 (518)477-2005 FAX (518)477-2386

Conservation Advisory Council monthly meeting

July 24, 2023 - 7PM
East Greenbush Town Hall
Draft Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Members: Jennifer Dean, Chair (JD), Victoria Manieri (VM), Jennifer Hixon (JH), Evan Barr (EB)

Absent:, Fred Henson & Brad Wenshoski

Secretary: Alison Lovely (AL)

Meeting was recorded to [Town Hall Streams](#)

- Call to order - 7:00 PM
- Meeting minutes for May 22, 2023 & June 26, 2023 tabled until the next meeting due to a lack of a quorum
- Business item updates
 - TB
 - On the 7/19/23 TB Agenda there was a request for engineering for a police firing range. No location at this time. This would be a shared facility with surrounding Towns.
 - There was a solicitation of bids for renovation of the Old Troy Road bridge. They did get some information from one of the state fisheries experts about how the condition of that stream has changed over time and that was submitted to the Town Board.
 - Lake Shore Drive is being turned into a 1 way with no parking on the sides.
 - The Zoning Update Committee is wrapping up.
 - VM did a draft of new assignment schedule for boards for the members.
 - PZD
 - JH stated Carver Court has requested another 90-day extension.
 - JD said that the Planning Board has a presentation on a large-scale solar project on Miller Road.



- The CAC has looked at the proposed large scale solar project on the NRI map on the Town's website & discussed concerns with any wetlands, tree cutting, visual areas, buffers & planting mix.
- Wondered what their 1st & 2nd plantings will be as far as species.
- VM was wondering about fencing and if the grids will be wide enough for birds and be 5 inches off the ground for critters to pass.
- VM wondered if their clearing in the fall and if the CAC can go to site & collect seeds.
- Once a proposal is submitted, they will write something up to submit to the Planning Board.
- VM volunteered to look into seed storage for future use.
- EB will look into process the county he grew up in Illinois uses.
- Zoning Committee
 - VM is liaison, the draft is publicly available, she had recommended changes to the draft & has submitted those to the committee. Members discussed some of the changes and their concerns.
- Development Projects for CAC review
 - None
- Other Project Discussions
 - Water Chestnut removal project: FH was going to set something up but due to family commitments can't.
 - JD can coordinate with DPW.
 - VM suggested having a couple people on shore to pile the water chestnuts to be disposed of. Last year they were composted at the Town's transfer station.
 - JD talked about timing and thought the afternoon/evening of July 29th or the first weekend in August. Sat. or Sun. afternoon maybe around 4pm.
 - JD will contact Dan F. from DPW.
 - JD asked if more drain markers will be coming out. JH stated that they ran out of drain markers. JD asked if they should order more.
 - VM suggesting waiting to see how they weather before more are ordered. JH will talk to Dan Fiacco and get his opinion regarding ordering more or not.
 - JD asked if they mapped them out. JH stated that they did.
 - EB is going to go check out all of the drain markers.
 - VM saw a lot of Phragmites root masses floating around and asked if that's a problem. JD stated it is.
 - Climate Smart Communities was discussed. EB stated climate smart communities is a points system and there is a process of who the Town would become aware of it, then a comprehensive plan has to be developed to address



it, then there is a score card to see if the Town would have enough points, the Town would get preferential treatment from the State to get grants.

- EB stated they could form a task force, then Town Board would vote on it.
- JD asked how they could start this. EB will contact Josh Giller and put together a presentation for the Town Board.
- VM stated things are still moving as far as getting trees for the lake from a nursery in Petersburg.

Public Comment

- No public present.
- Wrap-up/Review action items
 - The next regular CAC meeting will be held August 28, 2023

Motion to close meeting by JD, seconded by VM. Motion carried 4-0.