

**Town of East Greenbush  
Conservation Advisory Council**

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

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**Conservation Advisory Council monthly meeting**

August 29, 2022 - 7PM  
East Greenbush Town Hall

**Approved Meeting minutes**

Attendees

Members Jennifer Dean (JD), Adam Tobey (AT), Jennifer Hixon (JH) Fred Henson (FH)

Recorder: Adam Tobey (AT)

Also Present: Anna Feltham (AF)

Chair called the meeting order at 7:00 p.m.

Business items updates:

- JH: PRT
  - Met with developers about a solar farm on 465 Miller Road. They need more than the cleared space but decided not to clear and to instead negotiate with neighbors for more land. Looking at the 5MW requirements, they're conscious of not exceeding the clearing sq footage requirement.
  - 465 3rd Ave. Ext. - The sewer system is at capacity so the developer would be required to update the sewer mains, Army Corps is processing permitting.
- Esri has renewed the Conservation Grant for the mapping software.
- Pictometry came through.

Zoning Committee Update

- AF: Zoning Update had a long discussion about updating the zoning survey and the next meeting is September the 7th, focusing on parameters.

Discussion

- Climate Smart Communities
  - Program to reduce greenhouse gasses for financial benefits. Actions taken by the community generate points, and point accumulation provides grants.
  - The town has 57 Points currently and 27 Points Pending for actions already taken:
    - NRI, Benchmarking, Code Enforcement has taken energy training, LED streetlights counts
    - Program counts adaptation and mitigation.
    - NYSERDA and DEC is a designated clean energy community. Just received its first designation.
    - Actions count for Clean energy
  - FH: Where do you see the easy tasks to complete?

- GHG inventory planning.
      - North Greenbush is currently working on that initiative.
  - Anna Planning on using the 5k grant for EV Charging and then moving towards facility LEDs in Town hall.
  - Is there any interest in developing a task force? Yes
    - Meeting to go through the checklist in more detail.
    - FH suggests a clear charge for developing a task force: should be outcome oriented.
    - Task forces are typically continuous, size of force between 4-15ish.
    - JD suggests a CAC member have a standing spot on the task force.
      - Maybe on an “as-in” needed basis.
  - Plan to come for the next couple of meetings with some ideas for attainable actions: September 24th.

### Projects for CAC review

- Morner Road solar project mostly in North Greenbush, but there’s an access road in East Greenbush.
- Sent a followup letter to the Immanuel Church:
  - Suggested alternative species for the two invasive species in the planting list (Japanese tree lilac and Dart’s Red spirea)
  - Provided additional suggestions for more cost effective ways to reduce impervious surface impacts (pervious pavers deemed too expensive)
- Other Projects
  - (3 or 5)62 Columbia gas station on the turnpike
    - Rearranged the stormwater plan to onsite retention.
    - Will be sent to CAC for review.
  - Catch Basin marking project
    - JH communicating with Megan Myers
      - Considering taking on the Hampton Lake
    - Need to know how many of the storm drains go into Hampton Manor.
      - Fred - don’t necessarily need perfection to get the message across.
    - Could fall under the MS4 budget - would require a discussion.
      - **JH to start an email chain with Anna and Dan**
    - Fred: Plan B could be a stencil with paint.
    - Community Service volunteers through Brianna (former UAlbany).
  - Water Chestnut
    - Anna: Alternatively DPW will remove it if we give them a target. Out as early as 7/7:30.
      - **JD will start an email chain with Anna and Dan.**
  - Hampton Manor Lake Assessment
    - Reorganize the “Risks and Challenges” section under the “Current State” sections.

- Victoria and Fred did a walkaround nearly 10 years ago and an action from them was not acted upon.
- Fred was at a UMass Amherst, they have a campus pond that deals with a lot of the same problems.
- **Fred taking the charge on putting together the Existing Conditions.**
- JD on “Perceived Impairments”: Drone Imagery could be used to assess the algae growth.
- FH thinks the influx of nutrients is the low hanging fruit.
- ~10 year old nutrient sampling right now, should get more.
- **Fred will ask JH to reach out to Bobby Reno when the revised management plan is complete.**
- JD talked to David Hunt about additional historical data about Hampton Lake. **JD will try to track that down.**
- JH: Dan was talking about redirecting unused water

#### Action Items

- Create a placeholder for the Climate Smart Communities Task Force
- JH will need to ask Anna about submitting Dunn Landfill
- JD to start an email chain with Anna and Dan for two separate topics:
  - Determine if catch basin project could fall under the MS4 budget .
  - Discuss the potential for DPW to remove Water Chestnut
- FH Will put together the Existing Conditions section of the Hampton Manor Lake management plan.
- JD will try to tack down additional historical data on Hampton Manor Lake - lead from David Hunt.

#### Public Comment

- Public Comments:
  - Residents Brianna and Evan are interested in assisting in climate consciousness.
  - David Terpening
    - Bank of Greene County - received stop work orders in the past. Currently proposed. Drainage issues in the area behind.

#### Motion adjourned at 8:53PM

- JD makes a motion to adjourn. FH seconded.