

**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
MEETING MINUTES
July 19th, 2021 - 7PM
East Greenbush Town Hall
Community Room**

Members present: Fred Henson, Jennifer Dean, Jennifer Hixon, Adam Tobey, Victoria Manieri
Also present: Adam Yagelski

Call to Order

Chair Jennifer Dean called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. She noted the meeting was being held remotely in conjunction with physically.

Fred Henson recording minutes for July 19, 2021.

Action: June 28 meeting minutes passed with 4 Yay and 1 abstain (Victoria M.) due to absence from the meeting.

Town Committee Reports:

PRT July 12 4:30 PM - Jennifer H. attended meeting

- Minor subdivision reviewed
- 3rd Avenue Pump Station - need variance
- Eastern Gas Transmission - soil disturbance
- No issues for CAC

Town Board -Fred H.

- Agenda not yet online
- No issues for CAC in Pre-Board agenda
- Subsequent review of the July 21st Town Board Agenda revealed no issues for CAC.

Planning Board agenda - July 14 (next one July 28) - Jennifer D.

- Public hearing for Carver Court- 110 unit cluster subdivision over 91 acres; 25% "buildable open space"; possible amenities - ball fields, trails
 - Wetlands on site - .20 acres impacted, USACE permit
 - Public comments mostly focused on density and number of units for rural area
 - ? for Adam - when should CAC provide input on such proposals? Answer: much earlier in the process.
- Amedore Senior apts - Old business

- 17.6 acres of forest → 3.7 acres disturbed (2.5 ac impervious); wetlands and Mill Cr trib onsite (across from library)
- Immanuel Church - old business
 - New development; Adjacent to EG cemetery
- On EG website; under “Planning and Boarding” → “Land Development Applications”

Zoning Board of Appeals - Vicky M.

- Meeting entirely focused on Best Road Solar Project

Old Business:

CAC Budget

- Should begin anticipating needs for 2022 calendar year
- Include a miscellaneous line item to cover printing needs (for reports and other CAC documents)
- Questions about budget deadlines should be directed to Meaghan Hart/Jack Conway
- ESRI geographic information system (GIS) contract
 - Adam Y recommended that Adam T draft a high level list of requirements for GIS support including: Maintenance of Natural Resources Inventory (NRI),
 - Consider budgeting for consultant labor to create publicly available NRI maps

Action: Adam T. will prepare a request for proposal (RFP) to include description of desired functionality

Management of references/citations relevant to CAC deliberations and assignments

- Adam T. strongly recommends the Zotero application based on his prior experience; concurrence from Jennifer D.
- Start fresh
- Proposal accepted by the committee at large

Action: Adam T. will send Zotero invites to the rest of the committee members

CAC Website

- Website up and running
- **Action:** Adam T. will ask Meaghan for editing privileges so that CAC can actively maintain and update content
- **Decision:** Place Natural Resources Working Group content on the CAC webpage; title to include dates for project to distinguish this completed task from ongoing CAC work.

Discussion of best workflow/process for CAC project review

- When looking for potential natural resource concerns what resource should be used for initial screening?
 - Hudsonia checklist
 - NRI Maps

- **Decision:** Try both initially but start with NRI maps because the maps will help complete the Hudsonia checklist. Reevaluate later whether completing the checklist adds value to review.
- Adam Y. suggests that specific site-level recommendations be made on the front page and tied closely to zoning law.
- **Action:** Jennifer D. will draft report template by August 16th
- **Action:** Jennifer H. will place revised review checklist in CAC folder by August 9th

Printing of CAC meeting documents - need to establish regular rhythm with (Meaghan?) to get documents printed ahead of meeting. Ask Jack Conway.

Strategy for Drafting Solar Development Report

- Jenny H. and Vicky M. will work on addressing benefits of solar development to the town.
- Jenny D., Fred H., and Adam T. will work on language addressing natural resource concerns.
- Deadline for draft language August 19-20th.

Board Agenda Report assignments for August

- Adam T. - Town Board
- Vicky M. -will create ??? for rotating assignments

August Meeting Minutes - Jennifer H.