

Town of New Paltz Environmental Conservation Board
Minutes of the Meeting of October 16, 2023
7:30pm
Town of New Paltz Community Center

I. Introduction:

Present: Rich Whitney, Rose Rudnitski, Robert Ferri, Ted Nitza, Haley Nechamkin, Kenji Tierney

- Meeting called to order: 7:33pm.
- Approval of Minutes from September 18th, 2023: Rob moves to approve, Kenji seconds. All in favor. Minutes approved.

II. Planning Board Meetings:

- October 23rd: Rob, Rich
- November 13th: Rose
- November 27th: Ted
- Planning Board Update:
 - 10/12 Planning Board Meeting canceled.
 - 9/28 Planning Board Meeting: Agri-Business Child Development (ABCD) wants to expand play areas outside, but didn't have specific plans submitted yet; given federal grant

III. Town Projects under Review by the Planning Board:

- Riparian Buffer Assessment: Cornell Cooperative (CSC) wants more information about potential CEA sites. Right now, there is just the Wallkill site. The group looked at four focus areas, and ENCB members were asked for their comments.

IV. Other Groups of Interest to the EnCB:

- Ulster County Environmental Management Council Meeting
 - Meeting consisted mostly of a big presentation by James W. Taylor of Taylor Biomass (facility going in, in Montgomery). A waste stream that comes into Montgomery is about 10% unrecognizable items, 23% inorganic waste that could be recyclable, 2% household hazardous waste, and 65% organic waste (biomass- paper, cardboard, etc.). Taylor proposes

to put these things into a giant incinerator and generate a gas they can use for fuel.

- Mentioned a program run by Scenic Hudson called “How To Go Solar Now,” a program where you can learn how to cite solar facilities in your town.
- Water Quality Coordinating Committee: Had a meeting today and talked about putting together a stormwater coalition. The committee wants this for the county, and is aware that there are funds available from the Hudson Valley Regional Council for this.
- Village EPB and Solar Landfill Update:
 - Environmental Policy Board: received a draft of an environmental impact statement available for public comment; 11/9 at 7pm is the public hearing/opening for this. Comments will be accepted until 11/24. We will draft something at the next meeting and then submit it.
 - Still have one vacancy.

V. New Business

Announcements and Training Opportunities:

- Hudson River Watershed Alliance Annual Conference – October 24, 2023 9 – 3pm in person at FDR Presidential Library & Museum
- Protecting Wetlands and Streams in your Community – Oct 18 6-7:30pm, Oct 23 6:30 – 8pm, Oct 30 6-7:30pm, and Nov 9 1-2:30pm
- The SEQR Process and Habitat Conservation – Nov 2nd 5:30 – 8:30pm
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YKTKN7S> and 8th 5:30pm – 8:30pm
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9MGDCVL>
- Municipal Options for Financing Open Space Protection – Nov 14th 2 – 5pm Kingston City Hall
<https://meetny.webex.com/webappng/sites/meetny/meeting/register/70b2f6c565e1414f896ab4d52f7b165f?ticket=4832534b000000068a300632285fc1ad523317160f9656fcb7433c9922d96dd01434658a6a4dd840×tamp=1696943633374&RGID=ra3edc58020c4578fbce6512dd36dc76f>
- Northeastern Overlay District: Expecting resistance from developers. Conservation Districts to be shared in the beginning of communication so everyone is aware.

Motion for Rich to write a letter regarding the Northeastern Overlay response, pending approval. Kenji moves, Ted seconds. All in favor. Motion passed.

VI. Old Business

- None.

VII. Conclusion

- Kenji moves, Rich seconds to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.