



Kingston Conservation Advisory Council Minutes
Monthly Meeting, City Hall Conference Room 1
Date: June 10, 2014 6:30pm

Board Members Present

Julie Noble (Chair)
Diane Bonavita
Emilie Hauser
Susan Hereth
Lynn Johnson
Kevin McEvoy (Secretary)
Casey Schwarz
Gregg Swanzey
Arthur Zaczekiewicz

I. Welcome Guests and Public Comment

Call to order 6:34. No guests were present and no public comment was made.

II. Modifications to the Agenda : No modifications were made.

III. Review and Approval of April and Tabling of May Minutes

A motion to table the May 13, 2014 minutes made by Emilie and seconded by Arthur was unanimously approved by the council.

A motion to approve the April 8, 2014 minutes with minor revisions made by Emilie and seconded by Casey was unanimously approved by the council.

IV. Old Business

a. Natural Resources Inventory/Open Space and Habitat Summary

(i) Next Steps: Arthur commented on keeping the public informed with the recent Kingston Times article by Lynn Woods on the event passed to the council members for review by Emilie. A general discussion on the May 13 mapping exercise which occurred after the Habitat and Map presentations resulted in the following action items: (a) Emilie will review the hard copy maps from the exercise with Arthur to put the data provided by Emilie on a google map comparing as necessary with Kevin's notes contained in the draft minutes for May 13; (b) public interest forms will be reviewed; (c) Arthur has photos to provide as needed;

(ii) Web presence : Arthur to edit Kevin's executive summary document covering the Habitat Summary, Hudsonia Mapping and the Preliminary Review of Open Space and Natural Resources and will put up Laura's report and Gretchen maps and Emilie's report as a draft together with instructions to view layers in pdf.

(iii) Sharing Data: Emilie & Gregg gave a report regarding Ulster County's use of natural resource data in the Beta Version of the Ulster County Parcel viewer and how they've added new data sets and planning tools to the new parcel viewer such as

Environmental Assessment Forms. google earth, the Scenic Hudson Sea Level Rise Mapper in conjunction in addition to soils, wetlands, floodplains and other overlays. Discussion of a formal presentation with planning board regarding the maps & habitat summary, sea level rise mapper and parcel viewer and a separate training session with county resulted in no motions made, no resolutions presented and any action items to be determined later.

b. Comprehensive Plan - Review process : There is a July 14 deadline for the comprehensive plan steering committee to get comments to consultants. Comments from various interested community parties each commenting on different sections are to be coordinated by July 7 for the comprehensive plan steering committee to consolidate into a set of comments by July 14. CAC initiatives to include environmental stewardship, which may be put in one chapter and be referenced throughout with consistent language to be added in the vision section. As an action item, Arthur will draft comments for CAC review.

c. Climate Smart Kingston Resolution - Status and Next steps

The Common Council has passed Resolution #120 of 2014 calling for a Conservation Advisory Committee Task Force to implement the Climate Action Plan. The draft from the Common Council Public Safety Committee provided to Diane called for Climate Smart Kingston Commission 11 voting members, 3 non-voting at large members, and 7 ex officio members to implement the Climate Action Plan and for a climate smart community coordinator to serve as point and chair person.

V. New Business

a. Fall CAC Conference- Brief brainstorm and initial discussions regarding a one day regional CAC conference in October were had with Julie to consider giving the keynote address, and Arthur to consider a presentation on best practices, other CAC experiences and planning experiences from the Town of Southampton. This would be separate from the state CAC conference scheduled for early October in Binghamton.

b. Goals for CAC next year: Julie to set up a retreat for CAC to set up an action plan priorities and agenda for the next year such as a possible draft of items for a natural resource and open space inventory. Pot luck retreat to be held at Julie's house on 7-31 at 5:30PM

VI. Reports

a. Communications Working Sub-Committee : Cool City Cafe date is unclear presently. Communication plan to come after retreat

b. EMC Liaison: Emilie has completed documents to be a member but has not heard back;

c. Planning Board Meeting Liaison : Casey reported briefly.

d. Public Safety Meeting Liaison: Diane reported a question from committee regarding the large areas in the City left unmapped for habitat which Gretchen had indicated were too urbanized to support significant habitat; Kevin will fill in for Diane at the July 23 public safety committee meeting

VII. Announcements Kayak festival Sat June 14

VIII. Adjournment: Upon motion duly made by Diane and seconded by Casey, the council unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:41 pm