

TOWN OF YORKTOWN CONSERVATION BOARD UPDATED MEETING MINUTES January 20, 2010

Present: Co-Chairperson, Rich Fon, Walter Plankl, John Gembecki, Bob Carroll, Peter Alduino, Anne Kutter, J. Patrick Francois and Secretary Pat Rice

Guests: Chris Sciarra, Paul Moskowitz, Jerry Robock, Patty Peckham, Brendan Tully, Robin Zahn and Lorraine DeSisto

Rich Fon called the meeting to order at 7:40pm

The meeting took place in the Town Hall Board Room

Chairpersons Report:

Minutes of the January 6, 2010 Conservation Board Meeting were approved. Communications were passed around to members of the Conservation Board. Kutter updated us on the Tree Ordinance and she attended the Advisory Panel on Planning Review Process and gave a report on that as well.

Regular Session:

Old Saint Georges (proposed Winery)

Chris Sciarra from C&S Construction joined us and brought a map we hadn't seen before as part of the discussion. We again explained to Chris Sciarra that we asked the Planning Board if an EAF could be completed and the flagging redone, since it has not been done since 2002. At that time, we would like to do a joint site visit. We also asked him to submit one comprehensive map that shows exactly what is proposed and at the same time a narrative describing exactly what they plan to do, following the Town of Yorktown rules and guidelines.

Francois brought up the fact that the Memos are now due on Friday. The difficulty is Rice takes the notes by hand and sends them back and forth for the volunteer members for their input; it is usually Monday morning before the memos are ready for distribution. We have a laptop and it would be great to use at the meetings but Rice has limited knowledge of a laptop, always worked on a regular computer. Kutter suggested training on the laptop would be a good solution. A memo will be drafted by Kutter for submission of this request.

New Business:

The second part of the meeting we met with the Energy Advisory Board:

We all introduced ourselves, explained our respective functions and explored how we could go forward with coordination between the groups. The EAC

explained their function in concise terms would be: **to save money, reduce energy cost, and reduce the carbon footprint** and they are an advisory committee. Fon explained our purpose is to **protect environment, especially the wetlands** and we are also an advisory board.

Jerry Robock went over the 11 energy projects already funded and in the works, including Placement of bike racks in the Town of Yorktown. Jerry showed us different designs created by the students at BOCES –they were quite unique. Still in the planning stage but they plan on using old bike parts in constructing these bike racks. The EAC will look into a drop off for people to bring their old bikes to be used in this project.

Rich Fon brought up different sites that are currently active that would be good candidates for LEED projects.

Rich looking into Energy Code Class for the Energy Advisory Board and will get back to them with findings. He told the groups that the State will be modifying the Energy Code this year.

We explored the upcoming grant opportunity to work on jointly, and narrowed it down to a Rain Garden or a Green Roof. Since it would be easier to place a functioning Rain Garden where it could be seen on a property of the Town of Yorktown it was decided for the time being we would work together towards that project for the Grant from Fiskars. A working rain garden in the middle of Yorktown would be a great tool. It would be a demonstration model for “would be” builders to be shown and apply to their own building projects. We left off that Lorraine DeSisto would propose several sites that would be good for this Rain Garden, as well as how best to draft a grant application.

Suggestions were requested for submission to the Advisory Panel on Planning Review Process to improve coordination and communication between volunteer boards and committees.

One area of concern brought up by the EAC is the Tree Ordinance. Paul Moskowitz, the EAC Chair, is very concerned by the amount of rainfall we now have and the fact that we had two 100 year storms in a very short time and named the roads and bridges that have been washed out as a result of the amount of rain we now get. He stressed that EVERY tree needs to be protected.

We discussed our main areas of concern as we go forward and they are:

- A Climate Action Plan Strategy
- Look at Road Projects
- Waste Water Treatment

The meeting ended and we will meet back again in three months.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm by Kutter and seconded by Francois