

Conservation Advisory Council
Minutes of March 25, 2014 Meeting
Village Hall

Chairperson Robert Liebman called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Members present:

Chairperson Robert Liebman
Alison Bisbano

Minutes:

Approve minutes of February meeting

Alison: I corrected the minutes.

Bob reviewed the corrected version of the February minutes.

Alison: I will make the changes and then send the minutes to Paula.

Budget: Status of budget request for 2014-2015

Bob: Did you download the Village Budget from the Mount Kisco website?

Alison: I have not yet.

Bob: According to the budget document there is \$2,025 proposed in the budget for the CAC. That's where we stand. If you don't spend all the money in our budget the remaining money goes back into the general fund which is the main budget. There is a budget hearing Tuesday.

STAR Sustainability Rating System for Communities: PowerPoint presentation

Bob: We did not get on the Village Board Agenda for last time. We may not get on the agenda for April. We will most likely be on the agenda for May. I started writing introductory remarks.

Alison: I can read the STAR website.

Green Building Codes: E-mail communications with Energy Advisory Panel about meeting held at Sarah Lawrence College on February 28

Bob: We went to the Sarah Lawrence College meeting.

Alison: Bob emailed Doug Hertz.

Bob: Mr. Hertz was on a panel for Hastings and found the process of creating a green building code to be a lot of work. However, I think it is something the EAP (Energy Advisory Panel) should be pushing. The CAC (Conservation Advisory Council) can't take the lead. I think NWEAC (Northern Westchester Energy Action Consortium) will push the green building code. We don't know the results of the other Westchester towns that adopted green building codes yet. The Energy Advisory Panel is involved in the energize Mount Kisco program and they are working with NWEAC on items such as the Climate Action Plan, etc.

Alison: How would we be able to get the Village to want to pursue a green building code?

Bob: Next time something comes up we can attend and bring the idea up again. I would do Energy Star standards for a code.

Global Warming Update: Memo on climate science studies to the Mayor and Village Manager

Alison: I can read the memo that Bob wrote now. Building stock is a large contributor of carbon emissions.

Bob: Mount Kisco has a greenhouse gas inventory. There is a general figure of 40% for the contribution of buildings to greenhouse gas emissions. Reflection of sunlight from buildings by white roofs may help reduce warming.

Alison: It is a good idea for us to look into adopting green building codes because of the relatively high contribution to carbon emissions from the building stock.

Bob: I will send the memo.

Guide for CACs from Westchester County Department of Planning: Review

Alison: I can bring up the Natural Resource Inventory information since the Natural Resource Inventory is the next agenda item. I can read some of it now.

Bob: I've looked at the Master Plan and the environmental part is like an NRI (Natural Resource Inventory), though there is nothing about wildlife or vegetation. We can find out what other towns have

done. The Mayor wants to update the Comprehensive Plan. Find information out from internet sources. Towns explain how they made their NRI.

Natural Resource Inventory: Preparatory research update

Alison: I can come in and read the NRI binder.

Planning Board Items: The Hearth at Mount Kisco and other proposed projects

Bob: Regarding the Hearth Project, I sent in the CAC's wetlands and steep slopes comments last Thursday. We provided the comments on time. As far as other proposed projects go, we can do site visits and find out the extent of the permit. I'll contact the Building Department for more information.

Alison: Let us list the three projects that we will look into.

Bob: Those three projects are The Boys and Girls Club, Jaguar/Land Rover on Kisco Avenue, and Kisco Smith.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Alison Bisbano