

TOWN OF ESOPUS
ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 19, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Ellison, Chairman
Susan Barbarisi
Susan Leiching
Don Carragher
Cynthia Mcvay
Karen Helgers

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Laurie Sheridan

ALSO PRESENT:

Councilperson Kathie Quick
Legislator Laura Petit
Noel Russ
Evelyn Clark

Stormwater Task Force

There was no meeting of the Stormwater Taskforce. The Taskforce does expect to meet again on July 17, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Regular Business of Environmental Board – Commenced at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business:

Membership - There currently are still two (2) open positions on the Board. Introductions were made around the table with Noel Russ introducing himself and indicated an interest in becoming a member. No further communications have been received from potential member, Michael Creeden.

UC Environmental Management Council update – Member John Sansalone passed away on June 19, 2019 – members of the Environmental Board acknowledged what a great loss it was to the community.

An endeavor of the EMC was to ask each of the Towns to provide accomplishments from all of their Boards to create a database to be shared among the townships. One of the first to respond was Ingrid Haeckel who provided a list of the accomplishments in New Paltz.

Chairman Ellison had created a list of what the Town of Esopus had accomplished to date and asked for any additional accomplishments that could be submitted. Laura Petit had been instrumental in submitting information for a second \$5,000.00 NYSERDA grant which had been awarded to the Town. Kathy Quick noted that the Waterfront Advisory Board would be updating the LWRP. Chairman asked that any additional accomplishments could be e-mailed to him.

CPC Update - Councilperson Kathy Quick noted that the Public Hearing had been extended to July 9, 2019 and may be adopted at the end of the month.

Chairman called for a Motion to approve the May 15, 2019 Minutes (as corrected). Upon Motion of Susan Barbarisi, seconded by Don Carragher, the minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business:

UC Department of the Environment – UC BYOB (Amanda LaValle) was asking for assistance in getting information out with regard to the plastic bag ban. The website available to obtain information was provided:
<https://ulstercountyny.gov/environment/wast-reduction/bring-your-own-bag-act> . (Evelyn Clark joined the group at this time).

Carex Frankii Survey – survey was to take place at a date to be set at the next July 17th meeting.

Compost Campaign – Chairperson asked for bill or receipts from Laura Petit for the composting bins for reimbursement. A composting class was to be taught by Laura Petit and all persons attending the class would receive a free bin. Time and locations were discussed with the possibility of holding the class at Town Hall with the \$1,500.00 coming out of the funds from the NYSERDA grant. Cynthia McVay wanted to explore options to engage more of the residents. Don Carragher remarked that locating recycling bins a different ends of the Town but monitoring would be an issue. Mark Ellison favored involving BOCES and Roberts Graves school. Mark Ellison would communicate with Town Clerk to confirm date class could take place.

Other: Mark Ellison shared the content of a text from Ingrid Haeckel to Supervisor Harris in which students from Bard College were interested in creating mapping for a Natural Resources Inventory. Ingrid Haeckel had already offered to do a presentation on September 18, 2019. Susan Winchell Sweeney of Bard was in contact with Mark Ellison and he was going to communicate with Supervisor Harris to determine if the services of Bard and the students to help create the NRI.

Mark Ellison would not be available August 18, 2019 and Don Carragher agreed to run the meeting.

Climate Smart Task Force – Commenced at 8:12 p.m.

Don Carragher opened the floor for discussion. Susan Leiching believed Complete Streets was a task that could be achieved and she was willing to draft policy (PE 6.9). Don remarked that many of the tasks had been completed as a result of the development of the Comprehensive Plan and it was determined that simply obtaining the material for input in the portal was all that was necessary. Don Carragher had been appointed as coordinator and the Town Board Minutes may be sufficient to complete PE 1.2.

NEXT ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING: July 17, 2019

The meeting ended at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: July 8, 2019

Approved:

Lisa Mance, Board Secretary