

**TOWN OF ESOPUS**  
**P.O. Box 700**  
**Port Ewen, NY 12466**

TOWN OF ESOPUS ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD  
October 12th, 2015 Meeting Minutes

**Chairman:** Mark Ellison

**Members Present:** Cathy Quick, George & Rosie Williamson

**Guests:**

**Secretary:** Sheila Pratt

**TB Liaison:** Gloria Van Vliet

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Mark called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm -
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All stand for the pledge.
3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:** August minutes distributed at meeting.
4. **FREER PARK PIT:** Mark began a discussion regarding the actions of Hidden Harbor and the pit that was dug noting the Daily Freeman article expressing aggravated town residents and their frustrations at the lack of communication on this issue. Gloria noted the 2012 letter between then Supervisor Coutant and Hidden Harbor detailing the disposal of the material on town property. The Town also received information from NYSDEC expressing no contamination in the sludge removed after being tested by them. The Town expressed that the area be returned to its original state and or the possibility of a flower garden on that area in the spring. Mark expressed his thanks for Supervisor Barnett's quick response to all boards in regard to this issue.
5. **REMOVAL OF WATER CHESTNUTS IN BLACK CREEK-** Sheila noted that in the email Shari Aber had sent to us all for the September meeting that she and a group of kayakers had spent the day removing water chestnuts that have invaded Black Creek and how they were working with members of the community at Chodikee Lake and they were allowing them to dispose of the weeds there and had a very successful day removing a large majority of chestnuts. She expressed concern of how they could have ended up in that area so far from the Hudson River, and that the importance of cleaning your boat/kayak when you leave a body of water so as to not pass invasive species onward.
6. **COMMUNITY GARDEN** - Sheila reported the status of the garden was a disappointment for all and pledged that going forward we will have a better plan in place for the 2016 garden that will begin in February. We will look at the "Hudson Valley Seed Catalog" to choose varieties of vegetables for this growing area.

7. **FALL FEST/TRANSFER STATION** – George, Rosie, Sheila, Olivia, Mark and his wife spent the day at the Fall Fest handing out over 100 packets of information advising residents of the local benefits to utilizing the facility; including a map from Town Hall to the Transfer Station, recycling stickers, and the fee schedule. Regarding the status of the station according to Gloria there is no new information. Mark suggested we have a professionally made vinyl sign done for next year's and for Sheila to research costs for this.
  
8. **EDUCATIONAL FORUM** – Sheila presented DEC website information regarding the Millen's Steel Recycling area being cited by DEC as a super fund clean-up area on the Hudson River. There is a 30 day period for public comments located on their website. Per Mark we will keep looking to the web for educational ideas for over the winter.

**Other Business: None** – Mark thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and we adjourned at 8:15 pm.

**Next Meeting: November 9th, 2015**

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheila Pratt, Secretary  
Environmental Board - October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015