

**Town of Esopus  
Environmental Board Minutes**

December 14, 2015

7:00 p.m.

Esopus Town Hall Community Room

**Attendees:**

Kathie Quick  
Shari Aber  
Mark Ellison, Chairperson

**Absent:**

Jennifer Barrows      Annmarie Belfiglio  
Rosaline Williamson      George Williamson  
Gloria VanVliet- Esopus Town Board Liaison  
Shelia Pratt- Board Secretary

**Guests:**

Heather Blaikie, Scenic Hudson representative  
Diane McCord, TOE Councilperson, Supervisor-elect  
Carol Tomassetti, Waterfront Advisory Board  
Laura Lauria, Concerned Citizen

Call to Order: 7:04 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of November Minutes- tabled

Old Business-

- Community Garden- No Action, tabled
- Educational forum- Shari Aber has made contact with Nate Nardi-Cyrus, Scenic Hudson, and will be planning a Spring forum for the public. Possibly re: Invasive Species.

New Business-

- Scenic Hudson Land Trust Application 2015-08. Heather Blaikie, Scenic Hudson representative gave presentation and answered questions on proposal. Planning Board requested review from Environmental Board. Response to Planning Board and Town Board: ....

" After reviewing the documents and maps provided to us dated, November 23, 2015, and considering tonight's presentation by Heather Blaikie, representative of Scenic Hudson, we conclude that this proposed project will have a positive effect on the preservation and improvement of the quality of the natural and man-made environment within the Town of Esopus. We support this proposal."

- Pilgrim Pipeline- Discussion resulting in EB expressing support of Town Board decision that DEC should be Lead Agency in SEQRA. Townships and NYS Thruway should not be Lead Agency.
- Laura Lauria comment: She was very pleased to see the board members and others present, in their concern and passion in protecting our natural resources. She loves this area's beauty.
- Board Meeting Dates/times- Discussion of membership missing meetings, and more convenient times resulted in need to move meetings to third Wednesday of month, 7:30 pm.
- Membership- Jennifer Barrows will remain on Board with date changed. Mark to poll members absent. Mark to invite S. Pratt as potential member. Still 1 vacancy.
- Carix Frankii Survey- Kathie Quick reviewed results of July 7, 2015 field investigation. Overall, there was an increase in the plant numbers and areas.
- Tidal Rondout Watershed Planning Group, Carol Tomassetti, (WAB, Water Chestnut Cutter) explained what they would like Esopus EB to do, and be involved. Matching Grant monies are available, and a joint effort may be possible. Information was sent out via email. Will be on January agenda.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

**January 20, 2016**

**7:30 p.m.**

**TOE Community Room**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mark Ellison