

NOTES OF THE TOWN OF ESOPUS

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

October 21, 2009

Present: Emily Pereira, Chairman, Dan Shapley, Cathy Quick

Absent: Olivia Belfiglio, David Shapley, Susan Holland, Rev. Jennifer Barrows

Town Board Liaison: Debbie Silvestro

Chairman Pereira called the meeting the order at 7:10pm.

MINUTES

Approval of the minutes for September, 2009 was suspended since there was no quorum.

Approval of the August meetings from a joint meeting with the Town of Lloyd submitted by their Environmental liaison was suspended since there was no quorum.

DISCUSSION – Invitation for members of the Environmental Board, and a Watershed Seminar that would provide Zoning and Planning Board members training credit hours. This was a grant funded program.

Chairman Pereira mentioned that Laura Heady had offered to take the lead on mapping natural resources, and asked if the Town of Lloyd had completed their report. Shapley said Lloyd had begun the process but there were no towns that had actually completed their NRI mapping. He said there was a ten month training program that some people had finished to prepare them for the NRI project and suggested that the Town start collecting the information to begin the mapping process. The project would provide the means to amend Zoning and Planning Board laws and create management tools that would protect Esopus resources. Quick remarked that this was going to be a big project.

There was further discussion on upcoming informational seminars including natural gas/shale drilling projects, and riparian buffer protection. Shapley suggested an Esopus Environmental Board list serv (e-mail) for anyone interested in issues being discussed by the Board.

Quick brought up responsibilities of the Waterfront Advisory Board and interaction with the Town. Shapley said that Port Ewen had one of the largest concrete bulkhead areas in Ulster County, and an environmentally unique ecosystem.

The Board discussed reducing disposal costs at the Town Transfer Station through education and recycling promotion. Quick said this would be an environmental benefit and help keep taxes in check for operational costs.

LIGHTING – Chairman Pereira asked if Central Hudson had started the work yet. Shapley said he had gotten confirming some of the lighting site information.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05.

ADJOURNED 8:05pm

Respectfully Submitted by Laura Petit