

TOWN OF ESOPUS  
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 17, 2010

Members In Attendance -

Emily Pereira - Chairperson  
Don Cole  
Kate Landi  
Sean Fitzgerald  
Jennifer Barrows  
Susan Holland  
Gloria VanVliet - Liaison to Town Board

Non Members in Attendance -

Karyn E. Grieco - Secretary

Members Absent -

Kathie Quick - Liaison to Waterfront Advisory Board

The meeting was called to order by Emily at 7:05 PM. Those in attendance introduced themselves, commenting on their backgrounds and interests for the benefit of new members.

There were no minutes from the previous meeting as a quorum was not present.

Jennifer stated that she was unable to attend the wet land bio-diversity min course due to a personal commitment.

There was a discussion regarding the importance of having knowledge of natural resources available in the Town as well as soil surveys and mappings of same when determining the impact and appropriateness of projects. Dave Murray (present at meeting) has put together a binder with data he obtained from the USDA Web site, the DEC, and other resources. The binder is located in Diane McCord's office and as additional info is obtained will be added to the binder.

Dan Shapley is compiling data (2008 and 6 months of 2009) on the Transfer Station regarding the cost of recycling (which is generating a loss) versus the cost of processing and transferring garbage to the landfill. Our operating expense for 2008 was \$47,000. Our income is derived by selling permits and bags. There are approximately 3500 households (Don provided this number after speaking with the assessor's office on 3/18) and 1000 have obtained permits in 2010. The Town owns the land and we pay approximately \$6200 a month to Kurt Dankleman & Associates to run and maintain the transfer station and we pay approximately \$2500 a month to the

Resource Recovery Agency to pick up the garbage and recyclables.

There was a discussion regarding comparing ourselves with other towns to see how we can become more profitable and then presenting the findings to the Town Board. Gloria will be visiting the Town of Rosendale's transfer station to discuss their operating procedures. Rosendale is currently operating at a profit. Gloria mentioned that she has also spoken with the Town Board on how to educate the townsfolk about the importance of recycling.

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Breathe Green Esopus will take place on Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 to 2:30 at the Town Library. The Environmental Advisory Board will be giving away 300 seedlings this year. Emily Pereira stated that she has used \$100 of the \$500 annual budget to purchase the seedlings. Flyers will be placed at the library, post offices, Dollar General and schools. Jennifer will contact the highway department for signing, the community access channel and the Town of Esopus Web site. Sean will see about posting the info on Facebook and/or Twitter. There was also talk about a press release. Gloria will see if the Esopus Business Alliance will promote the event at their March 29<sup>th</sup> mixer. Emily was given KAPA.chair@gmail.com as contact for public access.

Don made a motion to include "donations accepted" on the flyers and signing at the event.

Don asked what message we want to send to the people who come for the seedlings.

Susan had an old brochure of the Esopus Environmental Advisory Board and it was passed around. Emily will scan and e-mail out the old brochure for review and input and then she and Sean will work on updating the information (mission statement, resource inventory, recycling info, contacts, street lights, etc.). They will try and have it done to pass out during the seedling giveaway.

There are currently three other brochures on the Town of Esopus Web site and Susan will work on linking ours to the Web site.

Gloria stated that Central Hudson gave the final okay for the Solar Panels and that they are now creating electricity. She is also looking to obtain some sizeable trees to place along the Doris Street properties where the clearing was done during the solar panel installation.

Gloria also mentioned that on April 17<sup>th</sup>, available to Ulster County Residents, is a Pharmaceutical Waste and Electronics Collection Event. She'll give this info to Diane for our Web site.

Don made mention of the Board to possibly do some lobbying to keep the Ulster County Parks open. There was no real discussion on this matter.

Gratitude was given to Dave Murray and Dan Shapley for their ongoing commitment to the Environmental Advisory Board.

Dan Shapley will be asked as a follow-up to a note that was already sent to see if Lou Sebesta will come and talk to our Board.

There are currently eight (8) members on the Board with one (1) opening.

Don made a motion for the meeting to adjourn and was seconded by Sean.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 PM.

Next Meeting Wednesday April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Respectfully Submitted;

Karyn E. Grieco - Secretary  
March 28, 2010