

TOWN OF ESOPUS  
ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES – April 17, 2019

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Francesca Sansone  
Laurie Sheridan

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Supervisor Shannon Harris  
Town Councilwoman Kathy Quick  
Town Councilman Jared Geuss  
Ellen Farrell  
Meredith Hughes  
Dan Valentine, Tighe & Bond  
Confidential Secretary Karen Winkle-Gorsline

**Stormwater Task Force**

Chairman Mark Ellison commenced the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 5:36 p.m. and introduced Dan Valentine of Tighe & Bond, the agency assisting the Town with the inventory to understand the stormwater drainage system currently existing in the Town area. Site visits had been conducted and critical information has been gathered with the identification of 150 drainage structures (including catch basins, outfalls and manholes), 43 swales that control water runoff from properties, 47 culverts (both under road and driveways) and 140 drainpipes. Focus over next few weeks was to look into parcels with historic flooding conditions and was looking to spend two days in the Port Ewen area and another day at other locations within the community. Constituent input had been provided by the Town to Tighe & Bond to assist in the process. The digital inventory (GIS), the assessment of the parcel flooding and the selection of six (6) issues that would be addressed and concept designs would be developed to compile into a capital improvement plan for the storm water infrastructure with the intent to capture grant monies. Purpose of present meeting was to provide additional insight from residents. Mr. Valentine welcomed general questions and indicated that he was willing to meet after with individuals. Members of the audience provided specific information to Mr. Valentine for his records. Karen Winkle-Gorsline was actively involved in compilation and contact with residents with issues.

The next meeting of the Stormwater Task Force would be to present findings of the field work, discuss priorities and which issues were achievable and which may take longer to address. Residents broke into smaller groups with Dan Valentine for discussions at 6:25 p.m.

**Regular Business of Environmental Board – Commenced at 7:07 p.m.**

Currently one (1) vacancy exists on the Environmental Board. Chairman Ellison encouraged individuals to volunteer for the storm water or climate smart task forces.

The next meeting of the UC Environmental Management Council was to be held on April 26, 2019.

Presentations to the Environmental Board were on hold until meetings and task forces were able to be situated.

CPC Update – Rifton Hamlet meeting had taken place at the Firehouse for additional input from the community and an additional hamlet meeting was to be held in Esopus to capture additional input from residents prior to finalization of the Comprehensive Plan.

The last of 13 meetings of the Climate Action Planning Institute to develop greenhouse gas emissions inventory was to be held.

The Town Board had authorized benchmarking for the Town. All the usage data using Portfolio Manager to identify buildings and areas the Town owns for greenhouse emissions and electrical usage of streetlights and pumping stations to will help build the data base. The Town has now completed one full year of the converted LED streetlights and Central Hudson was going to provide the amount save over the 12-month period.

Earth Day presentation was to take place on April 27, 2019 at the library in conjunction with their book sale. Mark Ellison provided examples of the cloth bags that were going to be handed out, as well as the tri-fold brochures that were going to be placed in the bags. Volunteers were encouraged to attend.

EDC Update – February & March minutes had been circulated and Beautification/Tourism and Business Task forces had been created.

Susan Leiching was looking into the Town of Lloyd guidelines regarding Glidepath.

**Climate Smart Task Force – 8:00 p.m.**

Don Carragher agreed to Chair Climate Smart Task Force with Laura Petite still providing services for input of data for benchmarking. Don Carragher provided a summary of what was required for benchmarking of PE7. Don Carragher recommended that everyone visit the website and become familiar with the material.

**NEXT ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING: May 15, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.**

The meeting ended at 8:45 p.m.

Lisa Mance, Board Secretary