

**Town of Esopus
Waterfront Advisory Board
March 6, 2019 Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 5:08 p.m.

Members Present: Chairperson Mercedes Ross, Carol Tomassetti, Dale Wolfield, and Marion Zimmer.

Excused: Eli Schloss, Amy Cahill and Margaret Phelan

Also Present: Councilwoman Kathie Quick, Environmental Board Member Susan Barbarisi (5:37 p.m.), Consultants Matt Rogers and Josh Westfall of the LaBerge Group and Rita Shaheen and Heather Blaikie of Scenic Hudson and Diane Dintruff.

Marion Zimmer moved, seconded by Dale Wolfield to approve the January 23, 2019 meeting minutes.

No updates were provided by Planning, Zoning and Environmental Boards.

Matt Rogers of the Laberge Group distributed a draft “work plan” for the Access and Connections Study/Hudson River Estuary Access Grant for River Access. The Town was holding off on the Invasive Species Grant at the present time noting that if obtained, would not cover a significant amount of funding for a new chestnut harvesting machine and shared services were being investigated. The Hudson River Estuary Access Grant was a joint project between the Town of Esopus and Scenic Hudson. Once contractually engaged with the Town, LaBerge anticipated conducting a series of site visits in the Spring to kickoff the plan and evaluation of the sites could take place. Thereafter, Matt Rogers proceeded with a review and conversation with regard to the draft plan. Carol Tomassetti noted that the depth of the water and river information corresponding with specific site would be helpful as a reference during the site visits and evaluation of each site. Once information on all sites had been collected, the first public meeting could take place and it was anticipated that up to six (6) stakeholder meetings could take place, as well as 8 Committee meetings and three (3) public information meetings with the project timeline going through to March 2020. Carol Tomassetti inquired as to what the additional four (4) sites could be that weren’t currently listed. Mr. Rogers replied that Sturgeon Pool, as well as others, were additional sites that may be considered.

During remaining review of the draft plan, Dale Wolfield inquired as to whether the Marist Brothers or the Bruderhof would be appropriate to add as stakeholders.

Each of the proposed known waterfront access sites were discussed – Black Creek Preserve/Winding Brook Acres, Esopus Meadows Preserve, Lighthouse Park, High Banks Preserve, George H. Freer Memorial Beach and Sleightsburgh Park. Matt Rogers answered in the affirmative stating that there may be even additional stakeholders.

**Town of Esopus
Waterfront Advisory Board
March 6, 2019 Minutes**

Carol Tomassetti motioned, seconded by Marion Zimmer to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lisa K. Mance, Secretary

Dated: March 21, 2019

Approved: March 27, 2019