

**CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, February 22, 2016**  
**Library, 5 pm**

**Members Present:**           Lori Tripoli, Co-Chair  
                                  Pam Pooley, Co-Chair  
                                  Nancy Welo

**Members Absent:**         Janine Selendy  
                                  Alan Towers

**Also Present:**             Janice Will, Secretary

Lori Tripoli opened the meeting.

The minutes of the January 26, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved.

Ms. Tripoli said she wanted to talk about the email from Town Supervisor Warren Lucas about 3 environmental education grants from the EPA that are available for as much as \$91,000. She noted that the submission deadline is April 8 and added that the Town would be required to match 25% of the amount of the grant.

Nancy Welo asked how much money the Town would be prepared to put up.

Ms. Tripoli replied that she did not know. She commented that there will be a lot of applications submitted.

Ms. Welo offered to work on the grant application, explaining that she had some experience from when she was on the Conservation Advisory Board in Somers, although the Town never followed up on the grants.

Ms. Tripoli read a list of the eligible grant topics, and everyone agreed that an outdoor community project is something they would like to work on.

From a list of environmental priorities, Ms. Welo suggested protection of local water. She said that enlisting school children to work on a project would be educational for the children and also do something to protect water; working with rain barrels or creating a rain garden might be good projects.

Ms. Tripoli and Ms. Pooley thought collecting rain water would be a good project.

Ms. Tripoli suggested the CAC could have some kind of demonstration and give-away for children at the annual Library Fair.

Ms. Pooley thought the CAC's annual participation in the Fair would be worth mentioning in the grant application/funding could be used in part to pay for literature.

Ms. Tripoli said several years' worth of meeting minutes and annual reports also make clear that the CAC is a serious group.

Ms. Welo remarked that funding applied for now would be distributed in 2017. She said she will look at what other groups have done with children and make clear that the funds would be used for a spring 2017 Library Fair project.

Ms. Pooley said the application should include a budget for printing, supplies, hiring a consultant, etc.

Ms. Welo thought the long lead time up to the 2017 Library Fair would clearly be realistic to those reviewing the application.

Ms. Tripoli suggested looking into getting rain barrels, adding that the EPA website might have something to offer re environmental education.

Ms. Welo commented that being able to say they want to use something suggested by the government would be good.

Ms. Pooley said she knows someone if the CAC wants to get a speaker.

Ms. Welo thought it better not to name someone specific in case the person proves to be unavailable/she would say the budget is to include funding for a speaker. She said she will look at the EPA site to see what is available in the way of materials.

Ms. Tripoli asked if they should ask what Supervisor Lucas thinks of the idea and see if the Town would be willing to provide the 25% matching funds.

Ms. Pooley agreed they should let the Supervisor know of the CAC's interest in the grant, and they should have a specific budget figure in mind.

Ms. Welo said she will start looking into things and also contact the Supervisor. She will email the other CAC members when she has something concrete to share.

#### Best Management Practices/Invasive Species in Wetlands

Ms. Pooley said that after the CAC approved the draft document she provided, she shared it with the Planning Board Chair, Cynthia Curtis. Ms. Curtis was pleased and offered some suggestions for minor revisions. Ms. Pooley said she had sent the revised document to Joe Bridges, who will be getting back to her with his comments.

#### Inspection of Conservation Easements

Ms. Tripoli stated that she sent the CAC's draft letter to property-owners to Bruce Thompson for comments; she has not heard back from him/will send him the letter again. Ms. Tripoli went on to say that, assuming he approves the letter, the CAC can approve it at their next meeting and look to set a date in April for their first inspection.

## H2H

Ms. Pooley said she would bring the others up to date and also wanted to include information about the CAC's plans for a Library event. She explained that Hudson to Housatonic is a 2-year grant from the Forestry Service to encourage land stewardship and conservation easements; stewardships have proven easier to get than easements. There is one last event coming up before the end of the grant period, although H2H may continue on as a brand re land stewardship. Ms. Pooley thought she would approach them with the CAC's idea to have a panel event about gardening at the Library, much like one put on by the North Salem Improvement Society in the past. H2H said they would be interested in a panel discussion re bees and trees and asked if the CAC would like to co-sponsor something to be held during the Improvement Society's annual meeting. Ms. Pooley said it would be helpful if H2H would get the panelists/presenters from the Westchester Land Trust and perhaps do a mailing to people they've been trying to encourage to become stewards. The meeting date is Sunday, April 17 at 3 pm. Ms. Pooley said everyone will bring some refreshments; H2H and the Improvement Society will do print matter; the CAC will be responsible for content. She said the idea is to talk about pollinators, native trees, etc., and H2H wants to offer up to 10 seedling trees from the Forestry Service to people who will commit to planting/caring for them and updating H2H regularly for 3 years.

Ms. Pooley said Cynthia Curtis will do a mailing in late March/early April detailing all of the NSIS events. Some events coming up in April are the annual roadside clean-up and distribution of Black Gold fertilizer.

The CAC has been asked to help on April 16 at the Town's e-waste collection point between 10 am and 2 pm, and they discussed their availability to assist.

Ms. Pooley offered to work on the content for the panel discussion, adding that a facilitator is needed (she would be willing to do this). She mentioned some experts who might be willing to participate, envisioning multiple 5-minute individual presentations followed by a question-and-answer period.

Ms. Tripoli suggested asking people what they would be interested to hear about and submit questions (via Facebook or Twitter perhaps). The responses could then be added up and those with the highest numbers would be used.

Ms. Pooley said a title, "From Bees to Trees", was suggested at the NSIS meeting; someone at H2H preferred "Bees and Trees". The NS Garden Club may be involved also.

Ms. Pooley stated that the farm tour/tasting at the Farmer and the Fish will be held the weekend after the NSIS annual meeting at the Library.

Returning to the subject of the trees to be given away by H2H to promote stewardship, Ms. Pooley suggested that people might sign-up at the NSIS event in April, and the trees could then be picked up the day of the Library Fair in May. She added that she needs to consult Gloria Stein of the NS Open Land Foundation, because she is the other NS representative to H2H.

### Meetings Attended

Ms. Pooley stated that she attended the February 3 Planning Board meeting; all the applicants had cancelled/only the Planning Board members were present, so Cynthia Curtis invited Ms. Pooley to tell them about the Best Management Practices for invasives and the CAC's plans to inspect conservation easements.

### 2015 Annual Report

Ms. Tripoli said that after the CAC approved her draft letter at their January meeting, the secretary sent it to the Town Board and the Planning Board.

### 2016 Goals

- Panel discussion at NSIS meeting at the Library in April.
- EPA grant application (funds to be available in 2017).
- Annual Library Fair in May.
- Request for CAC funds in 2017 Town budget.

Hawley Woods Subdivision - On-going/no news at present.

Palaia Subdivision – Also on-going.

Fuelco/BP – In progress/no issues re Fire Department.

Gizzi – Ms. Pooley said there is a newer submission she has not picked up yet.

Salem Golf Club – Going forward or not?

Rylan West Realty – Board of Appeals has granted variances/Planning Board review continues.

7 Bloomer Road – Lot-line change. Owner has building permit and SWPPP for new house. Remove from agenda.

13 Lakeside Drive – Work completed/take off agenda.

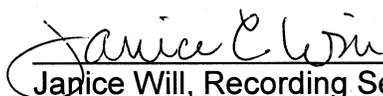
### Future Activities/Plans

Nothing further proposed at this time.

Ms. Pooley said Cynthia Curtis told her the NSIS is interested in composting re leftovers from the school lunchrooms; the CAC might be asked to help with some research on composting.

Next Meeting: March 21 in the Library. All in agreement. Ms. Pooley will arrange with the Library to hold all CAC meetings there on the third Monday of each month.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Janice Will, Recording Secretary