

Rosendale Commission for Conservation of the Environment

Minutes May 21, 2015

Present: Jessica Barry; Mike Brophy; Laura Heady; Susan Gillespie; Joe Luini, Chris Pryslopski (Town Board Liaison). **Excused:** Naja Kraus (Chair); Kelli Havranek (Vice-Chair), Joan Jordan.

Minutes: Minutes are waived until next month.

The meeting was chaired by Joe Liuni in Naja's absence.

Announcements: Federated Sportsmen are holding an event on June 13, from 9 – 3 at Kelder's Farm in Accord. It will include birdhouse-building, trout fishing, a BB-gun range, archery, and K-9 dogs. They expect 200-250 kids at this free event.

Laura reported that a possible treatment has been found for the white-nose syndrome affecting bats.

Perrine's Bridge is to be restored; it was rebuilt in 1970 with local labor.

Old Business:

1). Ash Borer: The event will be held on June 18th at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building. George Profous (DEC forester) will speak and will provide his own projector. Laura is writing an article for the Blue Stone Press. She will run the press release by Naja, and hopes to include a quote from Bob Gallagher. Laura will also create a page on Facebook. Laura has drafted a flyer, which we can copy at the Town Hall for distribution and posting. Laura will e-mail Mandy to request printing of color copies: 25 to hand out plus extras for the Town Board Meeting. Laura will send wording to Chris for an announcement on the town website. Chris will ask Jill to post the event on the town website. He will check with Bob Gallagher about the exact wording for the sticker. For posting: Laura will do Tillson PO & Tillson IGA, Stewarts & Market Market. Jess will do Rosendale P.O. & Trance 'N Dance bulletin board. Joe will distribute at Environmental Management Council meeting. Chris will do the town hall. Mike will do Little League Field concession stand and trestle signs & Victoria's Garden. Susan will put stickers on the brochures before the event. There will be no refreshments. The RCCE will meet at 6:30 to have its meeting for the month.

2). Stream walk water monitoring. Joe reminded us that we had wanted to look at areas where there might be problems and take samples. The Ulster Co. Sportsmen's Federation would help with kayaks and might be able to cover it with their insurance. Laura Finestone has something to present on this and there will be a planning meeting on Thursday, June 11, 7:00, at the Accord town Hall for Creek Week planning. Unfortunately Kelli & Joe & Naja can't go and Mike has another commitment. Ultimately they may be thinking about starting a Rosendale – Wawarsing – Rochester watershed effort. Susan will go and Laura will try to go as well. Clean-up was mentioned as a good way to get people to accept this activity. Clean-up will ideally

happen in partnership with the Sportsmen's group, possibly during Creek Week. Ulster County Creek Week this year is September 12-20.

3). NRI & Map Framing. Chris suggested that we figure out how much we need for Creek Week and other things before we submit these PO's. We need three quotes (Michael's, Staples, & Catskill Art & Office Supplies). Laura will prepare the quotes.

4). Town Emissions Inventory: Susan reported that in 2010 the landfill had 0 emissions. The info on electrical bills came from Central Hudson. Jess questioned whether some of the figures might be low.

5). EMC. Joe was not present to speak about this in person; he will circulate a report.

Meeting Reports:

Planning Board: Mike reported that there is an application for a bike rental place next to the restaurant on the Rail Trail. There is a pre- application inquiry about 2 yurts and a straw house near Schoolhouse Road and Mossybrook. A business selling firearms, both online and retail, has applied for approval of a facility on Rte. 32 in Tillson and is being approved so far with some additional questions and requirements. This will be the second gun shop in Rosendale. Stewart's wants to build a 984-ft. addition and make other changes, including pillars out front.

Citizens for Local Power: Susan reported on the REV process, which is multiplying into an increasing number of proceedings, many of which are behind schedule. CLP continues to work for creation of an Ulster County CCA (Community Choice Aggregation) project, which would allow the community to source its own energy and expand local control. There will be a public workshop on Saturday, June 27, to inform interested people and volunteers about how they can help. The workshop will include an educational presentation on how the energy system currently works, and how CCA can help change it for the better. Volunteers are needed to help build support for this model.

A motion was made by Mike; seconded by Joe to adjourn at 9:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Gillespie