

Rosendale Commission for Conservation of the Environment  
Minutes February 18, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kelli Havranek at 7:10 pm at the Rondout Municipal Center.

ATTENDING: Kelli Havranek, Chair; Susan Gillespie; Mike Brophy; Danyelle Davis; Joan Jordan; Chris Pryslopski, Town Board Liaison.

EXCUSED: Laura Heady, Vice-chair.

GUESTS: Jen Metzger, Councilwoman; Jason Zimmerman, Marbletown Environmental Commission member; Manna Jo Greene, Ulster County Legislator (arrived late).

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: The draft minutes were reviewed and two spelling changes were noted.

A motion was made by Mike to accept the minutes as written with the spelling changes made; seconded by Susan. Roll Vote: Unanimous "Yes".

PILGRAM PIPELINE: Guest speaker, Jen Metzger, gave a short overview of the proposed project which began in 2014. Most of the oil will come from North Dakota (some could come from Canada) as much as 200,000 barrels per day via two 20 inch diameter pipes running along a right-of-way of the NYS Thruway (79% ) between the Port of Albany and Linden, NJ. The remaining access would be through municipal or private property; 35 permanent access roads and 4 pumping stations along the right-of-way will be built. Most of the current oil is transported by rail; the pipeline will not reduce or eliminate these railcars coming through Ulster County; this oil is mainly from North Dakota but could include crude from Canada. Jen stated that 44 million gallons of oil have been spilled in the last 10 years. Anyone interested can access DEIS maps showing the entire route of the proposed pipeline; Jill LaFera, Asst. to the Supervisor, has the thumb-drive with the maps.

Jen stated that there are 30 towns listed as "interested parties" of which 29 towns have indicated they "do not want NYS Thruway Authority as co-lead agency with DEC" for the Scoping Process; New Paltz and Cornwall have requested a "dispute resolution" in the matter. Jen stated that all towns should "weigh-in" on the matter; RCCE should "identify local concerns" and input that information into the process. DEC looks at statewide issues so local input is important; the Scoping Process precedes the DEIS.

Danyelle stated that she could do a map overlay for the GIS; Nava did the GIS on the RCCE computer which is in the Supervisor's office; she will need to obtain their [Pilgrim's] maps. Danyelle stated that she thought we should hold a "brain storming" meeting and invite professionals to attend.

The clock starts on the whole process once the co-lead agency dispute is resolved; so time is an important factor. Jen stated that she feels the "scoping" would probably start in May.

Mike indicated that it's important to see where the proposed pipeline veers off the T'way right-of-way; he also indicated that gas pipelines are under a different jurisdiction than oil. There are "eminent domain" issues in play.

Kelli stated that RCCE will use its own email account rather than individual private account so as to comply with "open meetings law". More information next month.

Water Shed Alliance/Rondout Creek Summit: Kelli stated that since Laura is not present we will table this until next month; but mentioned that RCCE actions and decisions are made as a group not as individuals. The Summit meeting is Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 6-9pm at the Municipal Center.

A motion was made by Susan to have Kelli approve the "ad copy" for the Rondout Creek Summit and to disseminate through the website; seconded by Danyelle. Roll Vote: All "yes".

A motion was made by Susan Gillespie recommending that Danyelle Davis be the Town of Rosendale representative to the Ulster County Emergency Management Council upon receipt of a letter of resignation from Joe Liuni; seconded by Joan Jordan. Roll Vote: All "yes".

Susan provided information regarding a letter from Michael Dunham, Assessor for Rosendale and Marletown, warning about Cypress Creek Solar Farms. We should warn public about their practices which deprive landowners of their rights once they sign-on with Cypress Creek; this applies to landowners having 10 or more acres on which Cypress could setup a solar farm. Chris will call the New Paltz Times and Dennis Doyle, Ulster County Planning Dept., asking them to take up notifications. Manna Jo Greene stated that Ulster County is planning a hearing on "zoning modifications for solar" but she did not have a date.

A motion was made by Mike Brophy recommending the appointment of Sharon Wiacek to the Rosendale Commission for the Conservation of the Environment by the Rosendale Town Board at their earliest convenience; seconded by Danyelle Davis. Roll Vote: All "yes".

Notice was given that a webinar on "Streetlight LED Conversion" will take place on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-9:45am.

A motion was made by Mike to adjourn at 9:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Jordan