

Conservation Advisory Council, Town of New Lebanon

Minutes for March 11, 2019

New Lebanon Town Hall

Present: CAC members Cynthia Creech, David Farren, Peg Munves, Paul Rix

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. We approved the meeting minutes for February 11, 2019, to be posted on the town's web site by the Town Clerk. At the end of the meeting, Peg Munves requested that minutes be available for review at least a few days before the next scheduled meeting.

We reviewed the Water Forum hosted by the Town Democratic Party, organized by Peg and held at the Fire House on March 2. Cynthia Creech affirmed that a large, appreciative audience attended. Gretchen Stevens reviewed recommendations from the *Natural Resource Conservation Plan* and Peg presented an update on Steve Winkley's water study. We discussed the winning bid by the Corkscrew Rail Trail (CRT) at the County's foreclosure auction on February 28. The 3.44-acre parcel at 16 Lover's Lane will belong to the CRT once the closing takes place. It must be completed by March 28. Cynthia pointed out that a forum, "Health Needs in the Community," will be held on March 28 starting at 6:00 P.M.

We revisited the CAC's goals for 2019. David Farren will connect with Steve Powers to update the Scenic Resources Inventory. Peg volunteered to help. Paul Rix suggested that the Hands to Work program at Darrow may be able to help with CAC work towards the end of the spring term. David reached out to Michelle Bienes and she would be delighted for the CAC to mount conservation-oriented programs at the summer recreation program in Shatford Park. Paul has ideas on what could work and Peg volunteered to help flesh them out. We agreed that the task of identifying potential Critical Environmental Areas in town should be completed by June.

David provided an update on the Comprehensive Plan revision. The Town Board's monthly meeting tomorrow evening has the revision on the agenda. Approaches will be discussed.

The Planning Board agenda for March currently lists public hearings for the two subdivision proposals reviewed at the February meeting attended by Paul. One is an 83-acre lot along Gale Hill Road, intended to be sold, and the other is two lots to the east of C.R. 5 to be assigned to the owner's daughters.

The Zoning Rewrite Committee's recommendations for changes to the zoning ordinances will once again be an agenda item at tomorrow evening's Town Board meeting.

The next monthly meeting for the CAC will be Monday, April 8, 2019, starting at 6:30 P.M. at the New Lebanon Town Hall. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by David Farren