

Town of Taghkanic CAC Minutes Jan 7, 2016

Taghkanic Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC) Minutes: January 7, 2016

Attended: Moisha Blechman, Valerie Hoffman, Anna Kadish, Zita Kobos, Tony LaSalvia, Charlene Paden, Joyce Thompson

A. Taghkanic Culvert Study – Andrew Meyer (DEC) will soon complete his Taghkanic Culvert Survey. As soon as he has compiled the findings and established priorities, we will arrange for him to present his findings at a public presentation in 2016. Hopefully, This will provide the Town with the impetus needed to apply for a Hudson River Estuary grant to address the town’s flooding issues, etc.

ACTION: Anna will be in touch with Andrew to see how his when he will be able to fit into our proposed schedule.

B. Nature Walks for 2016 – Two walks will be scheduled for 2016.

1. Walk on Blechman property. We will ask Gretchen Stevens (Hudsonia) to lead this walk on a Saturday morning in the Spring

ACTION: Anna will call Gretchen to establish a date. Then Moisha will contact Gretchen to set up a preliminary visit so that she can plan the walk.

2. Nate Davis (Columbia Land Conservancy) will be asked to lead a walk at the Kobos property in October.

ACTION: Zita will call Nate Davis to arrange the event.

Once the dates are set, we will publicize the walks throughout the Town and on the website.

C. Summary of County CAC Round table meeting on Jan 6, 2016

Anna reported on the CAC Roundtable of the previous evening. There was a lot of sharing of ideas at the Roundtable, including Hillsdale’s acquisition of a salt regulator to install on the salt truck. This acquisition was found to be money-saving for Hillsdale and led to use of less salt for the roads

Information on the salt regulator, from the Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies was presented to the Town by the Hillsdale CAC. (Christine Vanderlan has sent us a link to that information on Jan 7th.) Other Roundtable discussion focused on grants, how to build CAC’s credibility, and how to recruit* CAC members.

ACTION:* Larry and/or Tony will determine how many CAC members are officially allowed in the Town of Taghkanic.

D. IDEAS for future CAC events!!!!

1. Exploring Taghkanic's Geology and history

ACTION: Anna will contact Columbia County geologists Robert and Joanna Titus regarding a possible geology walk for the Town, exploring Manor Rock and other areas in town.

ACTION: Joyce will contact Nancy Griffith, Town Historian, to see if there are any information/materials regarding the town's history and information about its geology /large rock outcroppings, etc.

2. Astronomy: A possible astronomy project was discussed with enthusiasm.

ACTION: Larry will contact Don Scheff, who has an observatory, and Alan Young, an astronomer who lives on Snyderstown Road, to discuss possibilities for a sky "walk".

3. Community Calendar – It was suggested that we try to develop a community calendar where all town events are listed and is posted somewhere highly visible to town and county residents. Perhaps the Fire Dept's Community Day in spring could be the kick off for this.

***Next CAC Meeting: Thursday, February 18, 5-6:30 at the Kadish's**

***Dates for CAC Roundtables for 2016:**

Thursday, March 31st, 5:30 – 7:00 pm at the Roe-Jan Library, 9091 Route 22, Hillsdale, NY,

Wednesday, June 8th and November 1st Locations to be determined,