Public Meeting Kent Conservation Advisory Committee October 17th, 2018, 7 PM Minutes

Attendees: Anne Balant-Campbell, Bill Buck, Beth Herr, Phil Tolmach

Minutes of the meeting of Sept 17th, 2018 were approved

Outreach Committee

- The Kent Nature Almanac for September is still being completed.
- <u>kentcac.info</u> statistics will be obtained from Dave Ehnebuske.
- The Facebook posting about the Spotted Lantern Fly was viewed 226 times. (The Kent Library has a printed handout about the Lantern Fly invasion).

Kent Conservation Foundation

- The application for an NYSDEC Parks and Trails grant is due Nov. 30, 2018. Bill Buck and Beth are working on it, with involvement from the Town of Kent Planning Board, the Town Board, and the Putnam County Visitors Bureau. Phil will consult Town Supervisor Maureen Fleming.
- A schedule second storm cleanup will be needed to complete the removal of the large trees downed by the May 15 tornado that are still across the Mead Farm/Hawk Rock trail. This will be scheduled after Bill Volckmann's return.

Hikes and programs

• The Mount Nimham Hike is not being held on Oct. 21. The hike will be postponed until Sat., Nov. 24, at which time Bill Volckmann will be back in town. It will be advertised as a "Walk off the Turkey" hike. Numerous other hikes are being scheduled by other groups such as the Cooperative Extension and the Hudson Highlands Preservation group.

Chair's report

The Kent Lakes Committee meeting was on Sept. 22 and included a progress report from the first year which is appended to these minutes.

The Clearpool Model Forest Committee meeting was on Sept. 24.

Audubon is hosting a "duck sitting" (observation of waterfowl) at Canopus Lake in Fahnstock Park and at White Pond on Nov. 17. https://www.putnamhighlandsaudubon.org/november-bird-walk-at-canopus-lake

The "Bedford 2020" brochure highlight many interesting events to support the town's initiative to reduce carbon emissions by 20% by 2020. http://bedford2020.org/

Several KCAC members attended the Oct. 2 Town Board meeting at which long-standing KCAC member Dave Ehnebuske was honored with a citation. Dave has offered to continue to provide cyber-support for the KCAC on a volunteer basis from his new home on the west coast. He will be missed!

Other

A solar farm was recently denied approval by the Town Planning board because the code has no guidelines for such facilities. The KCF (or is it KCAC) may want to have input in guiding the process of developing those guidelines and ensuring that solar farms that were permitted in the town would be consistent with best practices (e.g., to make them pollinator friendly etc. The KCAC agreed to explore how to get involved in the process.

The next meeting of the Kent CAC will be at 7 PM on Wednesday, November 28, at Kent Town Hall, 25 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes, New York.