

**Minutes**  
**Kent Conservation Advisory Committee**  
**March 20, 2019, 7 PM**

Attendees: Bill Buck, Anne Balant-Campbell, Phil Tolmach, Bill Volckmannn, Chris Ruthven  
(Town Board Liaison)

1. Minutes of the Feb. 27 meeting were approved as amended
2. Chair's report – none because Chair Beth Herr was not present. The meeting was chaired by Bill Volckmann.
3. Kent Lakes Committee - Report on March 2, 2019 meeting

The Kent Beautification Committee Clean-up day is scheduled for April 27, 2019. The KCAC has requested additional volunteers be assigned to Zone 9. The work party will meet at White Pond Road parking lot on morning of Clean-up day. This area has few roads (Farmer's Mills Road and White Pond) but covers a large geographic area. Additional volunteers and leaders still needed for clean-up day for other zones. Those interested should contact the coordinator, Erica Nitz

The problem of dumping of debris in remote areas was discussed. If the town offered bulk cleanup several times per year, this might result in less debris on the road. This could perhaps be offered on town clean-up day. There would have to be clear instructions regarding what would be accepted (e.g., no hazardous waste). Perhaps the County Highway Department could be a common drop-off location. Chris Ruthven offered to inquire.

The Clean Lakes Forum will be Friday, June 14, 2019, 8:30AM to 1:30PM. Bruce Barber is still organizing speakers and presentation ideas

A suggestion was made to post information about the Kent cleanup and the lakes forum info on the facebook page and email the KCAC listserve.

4. Phil Tolmach worked with Town Board member Bill Huestis and Supervisor Maureen Fleming on an application for a NYS reforestation grant to support planting trees. They indicated in the proposal that the Kent Conservation Foundation (KCF) would be the recipient and administrator of grant funding.

KCF may be best avenue for other donations funding and/or donations to support this initiative.

5. Anne reported briefly on the March 4 Community Advisory Board meeting that she covered for Chair Beth Herr. Key developments include modifications to the trail system and consideration of a replacement for the maple sugar house. There is interest in collaborating on hikes (e.g., a mushroom walk). Bill Buck mentioned a mycologist colleague who might be able to work with Clearpool on a mushroom walk. He might require an honorarium. Lou Tartaro might also be a possible leader.

6. There is interest in doing some educational outreach on invasive plant species, including Hardy Kiwi. We might plan another invasive species walk.

The NYS Ash borers-project involves selecting seeds from trees that can resist the ash borer. NYSEG is taking out ash trees because they are vulnerable and may fall on lines.

A Funding Opportunities informational session will be held on April 2, 2019 at Pace University. This is geared towards those employed in municipalities. Dr. Michael Rubbo, former head of the Environmental Leaders Learning Alliance will be speaking. Phil and Bill Volckmann may attend.

#### 7. Social outreach committee

- kentcac.info web site no stats
- Facebook: Anne put up a few posts in Beth's absence. Each received about 50 engagements. Suggestion: Post ads on the facebook page and email list to recruit new members to fill the vacancies on the KCAC

#### 8. Other

DEC has a new Volunteer Stewardship agreement with the Kent Conservation Foundation rather than the KCAC. Nimham Fire Tower has some new graffiti, but not a lot. One section of the road is rutted up near top. The April 1 cleanup at the fire tower is still on for 10:00 AM

The NYS DEC Climate Smart program was discussed. A presentation about it could be made at the Kent Town Board meeting. Someone from the Town of Phillipstown, which has adopted the policy, might be willing to speak with the KCAC/Town Board. Anne offered to inquire.

#### 9. Hikes and programs

- Woodcock walk - Saturday, March 30, 2019 at 7PM, Great Swamp Wildlife Management Area, Cornwall Hill Road, Patterson, NY
- Kent Clean-Up day - April 27, 2019
- Spring Hike to Hawk Rock, Sunday May 19, 2019 at 11AM
- Clean Lakes Forum, Friday, June 14, 2019, 8:30AM to 1:30PM at Sedgewood Club- in their "boat house"

Bruce Barber is doing "hot spot" testing at catch basins/outlets to find the ones with the most nutrients, and is hosting discussions about harmful algae blooms (HABS).

The next Kent CAC meeting will be held April 17, 2019 at 7PM at the Town of Kent Town Hall, 25 Sybil's Crossing, Kent Lakes, NY

