

Town of Kent Conservation Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2020

Attendees: Bill Volckmann, Chair, Bill Buck, Anne B. Campbell, Pamela Wadler

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

Minutes of the Oct. 21, 2020 meeting were approved

Chair's Report

- NYS DEC Land Use 101 webinar series is continuing. Information is available at <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/120539.html>
- Kent Lakes Association: Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 7PM.

KCAC Projects

Climate Smart Communities (CSC)

The CSC Website committee will meet with web designer Jasper Katzban re website and images after this meeting.

Bill asked Beth if the KCAC had any photos of the ground source heat pump installation at Town Hall, but she does not know of any. Bill V. will ask Henry Boyd, who drilled the wells for the system. Anne will ask Town Supervisor Maureen Fleming.

Bill V. talked to Jeff Hodges, a photographer videographer, who is looking for funds to defray the costs of producing a DVD of his video about the Kent Recycling Center. He would like to do this as a donation to the town and give some copies to the Kent Library, and perhaps make them available through the Recycling Center. Bill V. has asked him for a cost estimate for this.

Kent Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)

- Update on Putnam County Soil & Conservation District funding for NRI work. The application has to be submitted in March of 2021. We may need to update the original proposal.

Kent Biodiversity Inventory

- Plant specimens collected last fall are being analyzed and identified.

- During fieldwork, it was noted that access to some “paper roads” e.g., Williams Cross/ Crossroad Court is being prevented by the owners, who have put up barriers or fences as if the road, which still belongs to the town, were private property.

Other CAC projects

- Highlands Trail / North Putnam Greenway trail project with NYNJ Trail Conference – no updates

Development Projects in Town of Kent

- No updates

Town of Kent CAC hikes and events

- Planning for new events is on hold due to COVID19 meeting limitations

Social Media Outreach Report

Updates to KCAC website are needed. Anne and Pamela will work with Bill V. Dave Ehenbuske is still hosting the site for now.

Kent Conservation Foundation Report

Updates on Nimham Mountain fire tower stewardship

- The Fire tower cabin and railings were painted inside and out three weeks ago by Bill V. and his daughter to remove graffiti but it is now back
- Trash pick-up is needed. Bill B. will help.
- KCF is planning to clear brush around the corbelled stone chamber. Volunteers are being recruited for this task.

Next meeting

Next virtual meeting tentatively scheduled for December 16, 2020 @ 7:00PM

Meeting adjourned 8:05 PM.