



# Town of Kent Conservation Advisory Committee

Monthly CAC Update Meeting  
Public Meeting Agenda  
April 21, 2021 at 7 PM

*NOTE: This public meeting will be held by conference call due to the standing Emergency Order in NYS and Putnam County mandating all in-person meetings and gatherings be cancelled, postponed or otherwise held by video or conference call to help prevent the spread of COVID-19*

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## Online Meeting Details

### Join from the meeting link

<https://kentconservationfoundation.my.webex.com/kentconservationfoundation.my/j.php?MTID=mb7c714ecb35050be719aa5d33158cf11>

### Join by meeting number

Meeting number (access code): 142 809 0822

Meeting password: WDeEMfPE825 (93336373 from phones and video systems)

### Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

[+1-646-992-2010,,1428090822#93336373#](tel:+1-646-992-2010,,1428090822#93336373#) United States Toll (New York City)

[+1-415-655-0001,,1428090822#93336373#](tel:+1-415-655-0001,,1428090822#93336373#) US Toll

Some mobile devices may ask attendees to enter a numeric meeting password.

### Join by phone

+1-646-992-2010 United States Toll (New York City)

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Meeting number (access code): 142 809 0822

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## Meeting Minutes

Review and approve minutes from March 2021 meeting

## Chair's Report

Update from CAC chair on upcoming events and news affecting conservation activities

- Hawk Rock trailhead kiosk – update
- NYC DEP Forest Management planning
  - Possible forest management plan covering NYC DEP properties located in the Town of Kent
  - Awaiting further information from NYC DEP
- Review NYS DEC Land Use 101 webinar series
  - Reminder to look at all webinars put out by the NYS DEC at their Land Use 101 webinar web site:
    - <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5094.html#Training>
- Mention of e-mail contact from Westchester County Youth Bureau's Youth Empowerment Council for Change
  - Students in Westchester looking to promote reduction of food waste and existing food waste programs in Westchester county
- Update on Kent Lakes Association
  - Regular meetings are held “virtually” on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7PM using Zoom. Link to be posted before each meeting (ask for the link, if you are interested in joining a KLA meeting). Meetings are open to any interested persons in town.
  - The Kent Lakes Association will be hosting a series of educational forums on improving water quality and enjoyment of lake water bodies. These forums will be held via Zoom each third Thursday of the month.
    - Review of forum held Thursday, April 15, 2021, 7:00 PM - Shoreline and Buffer Landscaping Techniques
    - Next forum is Thursday, May 20, 2021, 7:00 PM - Septic System Maintenance
  - NYS DEC announcement – program to evaluate treatment of HABs using ultrasound
    - <https://www.dec.ny.gov/press/122734.html>

## KCAC Projects

Review projects the KCAC is currently working on

### Climate Smart Communities (CSC)

- Update from CSC sub-committee

- Review CSC Committee structure
- Discuss possible grant opportunities for CSC
- Discussions around Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) and Community Choice Solar options - Energy Choice programs in NYS
  - Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)
    - Review flyer received at ToK from Eligo Energy, a Community Choice Aggregator ESCO (see attached flyer from Eligo Energy)
    - <https://www.eligoenergy.com/aggregations>
  - Discussion Community Choice Solar

### **Kent Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)**

- Discuss possible grant and funding opportunities for NRI
  - Review grant funding through the Putnam County Soil & Conservation District for NRI work
- Hudson River Estuary Program grants program
  - <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5091.html>
- Discuss updates on RFQ response from Hudsonia for NRI work
- Update on Kent Biodiversity Inventory project
  - Diversity data of known species forthcoming from NYS DEC to assist with survey – delayed because DEC is tasked with other activities now

### **Other CAC projects**

- Highlands Trail / North Putnam Greenway trail project with NYNJ Trail Conference

### **Development Projects in Town of Kent**

- Update from Town of Kent Planning board on existing or new development projects in the town
- Discuss proposed changes to the town code to accommodate soil removal, excavation and mining in connection with proposed land development projects in the Town of Kent and the response to the town board from the CAC and Planning Board.

### **Town of Kent CAC hikes and events**

The Town of Kent CAC encourages all residents to get out and explore our wonderful outdoors while being responsible and maintaining a safe, social distance from other hikers during this 2019-COVID issue. There are many hiking trails available in this area where people can hike independently and enjoy time outdoors.

### **Planning for new events**

- Mushroom walk at Clearpool: POSTPONED due to COVID19 meeting limitations
- Astronomy night: POSTPONED due to COVID19
  - We have reached out to Westchester Astronomers Club as co-hosts

## Social Media Outreach Report

Review activity on Facebook and other social media outlets

## Kent Conservation Foundation Report

Receive a report from the Kent Conservation Foundation

Kent Conservation and Kent CAC are always building and maintaining a list of volunteers who are interested in working on the Nimham fire tower and related stewardship activities

Updates on Nimham Mountain fire tower stewardship

- Nimham fire tower will require painting when the weather warms up - Date TBD
- Trash pick-up is needed – Date TBD
- KCF and CAC will establish a plan to clear brush around the corbelled stone chamber on Nimham mountain in Spring 2021

Third party write-up of Nimham trail hike and fire tower

- <https://scenesfromthetrail.com/2021/03/21/mount-nimham-fire-tower-loop/>

## Meeting End

Final comments from anyone

The next meeting date for the Conservation Advisory Committee will be May 19, 2021 at 7:00PM, to be held as a video/telephone conference via WebEx

## Contact

For further information about the CAC, including projects the CAC is working on or our meetings, please contact Bill Volckmann, CAC Chair at [cac@townofkentny.gov](mailto:cac@townofkentny.gov) or 914-671-2764.