



Town of Kent Conservation Advisory Committee

Monthly CAC Update Meeting
Public Meeting Agenda
July 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

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](tel:+16469922010), [1428090822](tel:+1428090822)#93336373# United States Toll (New York City)

[+1-415-655-0001](tel:+14156550001), [1428090822](tel:+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

Meeting Minutes

Review and approve minutes from June 2021 meeting

Chair's Report

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

- Hawk Rock trailhead kiosk
 - Kiosk was reinstalled at trailhead on June 26, 2021 with a huge effort by Scouts Carmel Troop #1
- Review NYS DEC Land Use 101 webinar series
 - Recent webinar series was recorded covering wetlands
 - A 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>
- Update on Kent Lakes Association
 - Regular meetings are held “virtually” on the 3rd 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 hosted a series of educational forums on improving water quality and enjoyment of lake water bodies. These forum recordings are available for review online.

KCAC Projects

Review projects the KCAC is currently working on

Climate Smart Communities (CSC)

The Climate Smart Communities is a working group to assist the town in achieving Climate Smart goals. The CSC meeting is held prior to the CAC meeting, at 6PM. CSC committee can give a brief update or answer any questions during this primary CAC.

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 report from NYS DEC Hudson River Estuary Program has arrived

Other CAC projects

- Highlands Trail / North Putnam Greenway trail project with NYNJ Trail Conference
- Trail on NYC DEP Horsepound Brook unit
 - NYC DEP is seeking public use ownership/stewardship for a trail that has been an unofficial trail for many years and was recently blazed by a private land owner nearby for their private use
 - NYC DEP will only approve public use of a trail on their land
 - Town of Kent CAC has an existing land and trail stewardship agreement in place with the NYC DEP for the Horsepound Brook unit for our Tom Morgan/Hawk Rock trail. The CAC has sent a letter to the DEP requesting we add this additional section of trail in the same DEP managed unit to our stewardship agreement.
 - The CAC will plan to improve the trail to make it ready for addition to the Highlands Trail which is in planning

Development Projects in Town of Kent

- Update from Town of Kent Planning board on existing or new development projects in the town
- Continued discussion re: 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 – BV has reached out to LT to begin coordinating
- Astronomy night
 - PW is going to contact 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

Discuss meeting date for August 2021 meeting.

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 or 914-671-2764.