



Town of Kent Conservation Advisory Committee

Monthly CAC Update Meeting
Public Meeting Agenda
March 17, 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,,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

Meeting Minutes

Review and approve minutes from January 2021 meeting

Chair's Report

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

- 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
 - Review of NRI planning webinar held January 26, 2021.
 - 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>
- Energy Choice programs in NYS
 - Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)
 - Community Choice Solar (not CCA)
 - New round of NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities funding
- Hudson River Valley Greenway Planning Grant program
 - Hudson River Valley Greenway is a “unique state agency created to preserve the scenic, natural, historic cultural and recreational resources of the Hudson Valley (from web site)
 - Review criteria
 - Putnam County is a Hudson Valley Greenway Compact County (see map)
 - NRI is a covered project
 - CAC Chair has e-mailed a set of questions to grant e-mail address
 - Review letter and application pdf files (attached)
 - Review Hudson River Valley Greenway website
 - <https://hudsongreenway.ny.gov/>
 - <https://hudsongreenway.ny.gov/grants-funding>
- NYSACC – New York State Association of Conservation Commissions
 - Latest newsletter from NYSACC available can be found at:
 - <https://nysacc.org/index.php/category/winter-2021/>
 - Communication seeking short articles from NYS CACs for next newsletter
 - This one covers a topic of “How To...”, as described:
 - "HOW TO..." The article can be short or long and should cover something that your CAC has learned to do and want to share with others. As an example, we plan on having an article on "How to plant a pollinator garden". Deadline for articles is April 5th, so that we can have it published in time for Earth Day. Send them to: nysaccpresident@gmail.com.
- 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 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. The educational forum schedule is:
 - Thursday, March 18, 2021, 7:00 PM - Invasive Plant Management
 - Thursday, April 15, 2021, 7:00 PM - Shoreline and Buffer Landscaping Techniques
 - Thursday, May 20, 2021, 7:00 PM - Septic System Maintenance
- Information for Thursday, March 18, 2021, 7:00PM forum - Lindsay Yoder of PRISM will be discussing identification of different plants that are not native to our lakes, the issues and conditions these plants cause and how to address these conditions. Topics include: Overview of Invasive Species, Basic Identification of Common Invasive Species, the PRISM Program (What services are provided), Kent Lake Profiles (Current Invasive Species that are present and past management techniques), and an overview of Approved Management in NY-recommendations for individual lakes based on known data.

Topic: Educational Forum Series - Invasive Plant Management
 Time: Mar 18, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83385888300>

Meeting ID: 833 8588 8300

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,83385888300# US (New York)

+13017158592,,83385888300# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 833 8588 8300

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbSGtruj7E>

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

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 Valley Greenway Communities grant program
- Discuss any updates on RFQ response from Hudsonia to work on the NRI
- 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

Meeting End

Final comments from anyone

The next meeting date for the Conservation Advisory Committee will be April 21, 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 or 914-671-2764.