



Town of Kent Conservation Advisory Committee

Monthly CAC Update Meeting
Public Meeting Agenda
July 15, 2020 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

Meeting information

The following meeting information is shared to enable this meeting in lieu of an in-person meeting at the town hall.

Meeting Information

Town of Kent CAC - June meeting

Wednesday, Jun 17, 2020 7:00 pm | 2 hours | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 126 135 8014

Password: KCAC_JUN2020 (52220586 from phones and video systems)

Meeting link:

<https://meetingsamer.webex.com/meetingsamer/j.php?MTID=m2bb3276482bc3c5589ebe45923b15778>

Join by phone

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

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Access code: 126 135 8014

Meeting Minutes

Review and approve minutes from June 2020 meeting

Chair's Report

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

- NYS Association of Conservation Commissions (NYSACC)
 - <https://nysacc.org>
 - Kent CAC has sent in renewal application for 2020
- Review NYS DEC Land Use 101 webinar series
 - <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5094.html#Training>
 - Next → Best Practices for Local Environmental Reviews – June 17, 2020
- Update on Kent Lakes Association
 - Last meeting held a very short meeting June 20, 2020 by video conference call
 - Next Lakes Association meeting scheduled for July 18, 2020 at 9AM
- Harmful algae blooms (HABs)
 - Summer is here. Be on the lookout for HABs in our lakes and waters!
 - Information and reporting page: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/83310.html>

KCAC Projects

Review projects the KCAC is currently working on

Climate Smart Communities (CSC)

- Update from CSC sub-committee
- Review CSC Committee structure
 - How to and when to invite representatives from other town committees to participate to facilitate coordination with other town committees and groups.
 - Review list of groups who should be included
 - Recruitment of additional community members – press release
- Discuss possible grant opportunities for CSC

Kent Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)

- Discuss possible grant and funding opportunities for NRI
 - Putnam county may have funding to help with NRI?
- Review meeting with Hudsonia
- 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

- NYS DEC has acquired land connecting NYS DEC White Pond MUA with NYS DEC Big Buck Mountain area
- Highlands Trail / North Putnam Greenway trail project with NYNJ Trail Conference

- Scouting work held at NYS DEC Big Buck Mountain property to review connection between NYS DEC White Pond and Farmer's Mills Road and DEP property units

Development Projects in Town of Kent

- Receive update from Town of Kent Planning board on existing or new development projects in the town
- Receive update from town board on work toward developing a mining ordinance

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: Sunday, September 19, 2020 @ (time)
 - Must confirm date/time at this point
 - Discussed briefly with L. Tartaro who indicated maybe October. Everything in the air at this point.
 - Will be led by COMA members
- Astronomy night: date and location TBD – we have reached out to Westchester Astronomers Club as co-hosts
 - Awaiting contact from the astronomer's club to review possible locations
 - Town Center is the preferred site due to parking and accessibility

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

Updates on Nimham Mountain fire tower stewardship

- With re-opening procedures in effect NYS DEC has re-opened access to all NYS fire lookout towers
- Maintenance date (graffiti painting) to be scheduled

Meeting End

Final comments from anyone

Establish next meeting date – Wednesday July 15, 2020 @ 7:00PM

- Format depends on meeting restrictions in effect by this meeting time
 - May be held in-person at the Town of Kent Town Hall
 - Whether or not in-person meetings are allowed, a WebEx conference will be utilized in conjunction with in-person to encourage those who do not want to attend in-person to participate.

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.