



Town of Kent Conservation Advisory Committee

Monthly CAC Update Meeting
Public Meeting Agenda
October 21, 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 Monthly meeting

Wednesday, October 21, 2020 7:00 pm | 1.5 hours | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting Information

Meeting link:

<https://kentconservationfoundation.my.webex.com/kentconservationfoundation.my/j.php?MTID=ma256ac510e375a2893251d6ff6159a8a>

Meeting number:

142 597 6215

Password:

KCAC_2020 (52220202 from phones and video systems)

Join by phone:

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

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Access code:

142 597 6215

Meeting Minutes

Review and approve minutes from September 2020 meeting

Chair's Report

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

For this October meeting we will dedicate our time to celebrate Beth Herr's community service in our 'virtual' meeting.

- Review NYS DEC Land Use 101 webinar series
 - <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5094.html#Training>
- ReLeaf seminar – October 28, 2020 at 9:00AM
 - Join us to learn about the steps to becoming a Tree City USA
 - Registration
link: <https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/onstage/g.php?MTID=ecb9b4b40ae24efe4267132ebee8cbce>
 - Live event is approved for 1.5 credits with ISA
- Letter from NYC DEP – Notification of closure of approximately 27 acres out of a 381-acre recreation unit off Richardsville Road
- The Hawk rock rail kiosk was destroyed on Sunday, September 28, 2020 by unknown persons
 - The Hawk Rock trail kiosk was originally built about 5 years ago as an Eagle Scout project, along with an official blazing of the Hawk Rock trail.
 - The CAC filed a police report with the Kent PD
 - All broken kiosk pieces were removed
 - The original builder is disappointed, but, also enthusiastic about rebuilding a more robust design to be reinstalled in Spring 2021
 - Kiosk will be reinstalled in a location slightly away from the parking area
- Update on Kent Lakes Association
 - Next Lakes Association meeting re-scheduled to October 22, 2020
- Harmful algae blooms (HABs)
 - 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
- Discuss possible grant opportunities for CSC

Kent Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)

- Discuss possible grant and funding opportunities for NRI
 - Review possible avenue of funding through the Putnam County Soil & Conservation District for NRI work
- Hudsonia bid for 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
 - Work to blaze a trail through NYC DEP properties in Town of Kent
 - Trail to include section of existing trails in Huestis Park (Town park)
 - Work to blaze a trail around NYS DEC White Pont MUA and over Big Buck Mountain

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: 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

Updates on Nimham Mountain fire tower stewardship

- Graffiti removal on rocks has been successful several times
- Maintenance date for tower to be scheduled

Meeting End

Final comments from anyone

Establish next meeting date – Wednesday, November 18, 2020 @ 7:00PM

- Format depends on meeting restrictions in effect by this meeting time
 - When in-person meetings resume meetings will be held as a hybrid with in-person and video/audio conference in order to accommodate everyone and encourage participation join the CAC meetings.

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.