

The Kent Conservation Advisory Committee
Public Meeting
Town of Kent Town Hall
25 Sybil's Crossing
Kent Lakes, NY 10512
October 16, 2019
Minutes

Attendees: Bill Buck, Anne Campbell, Ed Illiano, Bill Volckmann (Chair), Chris Ruthven (Kent Town Board).

Reviewed and approved minutes of Town of Kent Conservation Advisory Committee meeting of September 18, 2019.

Chair's Report

- Update from Kent Lakes Association
 - Next meeting will be October 19, 2019 at 8:45 AM at Town Hall. Bill V. will attend. They will be discussing the organization of Kent Lakes Association group as a possible Town committee or an independent group.
 - WAVE training has closed for this year. The planned event at Clearpool was not held. It may be rescheduled for 2020.
- The KCAC was nominated for an award given by the Putnam Community Service Network but was not the final awardee. The recognition event was held the morning of October 16.
- Advertising for new members for the KCAC has been published in local papers.
- Results of the "How Green is my Town Survey?" being completed by Bill B. and Ed will be deferred to the next meeting.
- The Climate Smart Initiative will be presented to the Town Board will be at its next meeting on 10/22/19. KCAC will take charge of planning the task force. A possible draft resolution was reviewed.
- Work with NY/NJ Trail Conference and planning for the cross-Putnam Trail will continue in the near future. The trail will come out on Rte. 52 near Bowen Road so that hikers can cross Rte. 84 to get to Wonder Lake.
- Route 52 Kent Country Square development
 - The Planning Board has previously documented environmental and conservation considerations in scoping document. The KCAC can still provide commentary.
 - Project requires full SEQRA review.
 - The Kent Historical Society has sent a letter Planning Board Chair Phil Tolmach requesting site access to assess for structures of historic value.
 - Kent Nature Almanac and other kentcas.info archives. Councilman Ruthven is looking for a high school student to work on converting the almanacs to a single

document. All archives for Nature Almanac are stored on kentcac.info/almanac web site.

- A Kent Natural Resources Inventory project is being launched by Bill B and former KCAC chair Beth Herr. Plant specimens will be mounted, entered in a database, and documented on line. Beth will take images in the field, some of which will be attached to the specimens digitally. We might also link this to any wildflower walks that we hold so that plants identified on the walk can be added to the inventory. Clearpool might even offer a related educational program for children. To accomplish this, Bill B. will need to obtain maps of the town so that sites for sampling may be identified. Once sites are selected, sampling expeditions will be announced in advance in case others want to participate. These expeditions will move at a slow pace and are not to be considered hikes. Chris Ruthven (Town Board) will try to obtain a map from the county for this purpose.
- Hikes and Programs
 - Fall Foliage hike to Nimham Mountain Fire Lookout Tower, held on Sunday, October 13 at 11:00 AM, Nimham Mountain Multiple Use Area went well, with about 30 participants.
 - Planning for a New Year's day hike will be worked out at the November meeting
 - The proposed astronomy night will be postponed to 2020. This will be planned in conjunction with the Westchester Astronomers Club and might be held at Huestis Park.
- Outreach report: The web site and facebook page continue to see a steady level of activity.
- Kent Conservation Foundation report

The next Kent CAC meeting will be 7:00 PM Weds. Nov. 20, 2019 at Kent Town Hall