

# Town of Kent Conservation Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes for November 20, 2019

**Committee Member Attendance:** Bill Volckmann, chair, Bill Buck, Anne Campbell, Ed Illiano

**Guest Attendance:** Maureen Galway Perotti, Guest

## Chair's Report

Kent Lakes meeting this coming Sat. Jan 18, 8:45 AM at the Kent Town hall. The group is considering creating a non-profit organization.

## KCAC projects

- Natural Resources Inventory

Presentation by Nate Nardi-Cyrus, Conservation and Land Use Specialist at the Hudson River Estuary Program. Nate.nardi-cyrus@dec.ny.gov

Notes from the presentation:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/100925.html>

A Natural Resources inventory consists of maps (20-30), data, and a report. It should include maps of open areas, aquifers, steep slopes, etc., and lists/locations of species of flora and fauna. Ideally it should be formally adopted by the town by resolution or amended to comprehensive plan.

Resources:

Guide book re creating the NRI

[http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation\\_hudson\\_pdf/nriall.pdf](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation_hudson_pdf/nriall.pdf)

Conservation and land use link – via Cornell <https://hudson.dnr.cals.cornell.edu/extension/>

Funding to create maps and narrative; can try to get maps from a college or Putnam CCE. Narrative may be written or edited by volunteers in some cases.

Hudson Valley Resource Mapper: interactive, can work on it remotely on line

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/112137.html>

Need to coordinate across towns. Having a partner can help for obtaining funding. Putnam Valley worked with Hudson Highlands Land Trust, for example. They completed their inventory in 18 months.

Local law should be amended to require that planning board shall use the NRI for all SEQR projects. Must have an open space index prioritization of parcels based on NRI.

Other features of the NRI:

DEC provides migratory fish data. Trout waters based on stream classification. A layer showing storage for salt, petroleum products etc., relative to locations of water resources should be included. Also, can include a “viewshed analysis” -what is able to be seen from key vantage points identified in the community?

What information do we want in our NRI? Look at the layers in Putnam Valley’s NRI as an example. Habitat summaries can be developed based on NRI maps.

Funding opportunities:

[www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4920](http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4920) They offer grants for up to \$50,000. They require a 15% match which can be 100 percent “in kind.”

Hudson River Valley Greenway grants are up to \$10,000 with a 50% match

There is more competition for state grants such as DEC Climate Smart. Also, because they are doing more outreach, the Estuary group is getting a lot more applications.

The Request for Proposals will come out in spring.

- Kent Biodiversity Inventory

Bill B. , Ed, and Beth Herr have identified some areas for sampling, including a “paper road” Starting on Barret Hill road that appears to have been taken over by local landowners.

### **Next Meeting**

- The next KCAC meeting will be Jan 15, 2020, 7:00 PM at the Kent Town Hall