

05.18.2015 Meeting

Samson Environmental Center, Darrow School

Attendees: Cynthia Creech, David Farren, Craig Westcott, Bruce Shenker (guest), Anna Duhon

Call to order 6:35 pm

Adjourned at 8:00 pm

Bruce Shenker presented information regarding the Hillsdale Town Resolution on Climate Change. He suggested that the CAC could adopt the resolution and introduce the issue to the Town Board to adopt the resolution.

This is essentially a statement of ethical position and does not require any action, beyond adoption, of the Town Board. Bruce added that Congressman Gibson was in the process of introducing a similar measure in the US House of Representatives. The CAC tabled discussion on this issue until the next meeting.

Cynthia brought the issue of the "waterway resolution," designating the Wyomanock Creek as an "inland waterway." Why: Can positively affect ability to attract grant funding for waterfront revitalization projects. Specifically, the Shaker Swamp Conservancy, Corkscrew Rail Trail, and possibly local businesses seeking to capitalize on both residents and visitors to the town. She suggested that the CAC could adopt the resolution and introduce the issue to the Town Board to adopt the resolution themselves, and that Supervisor Benson write a letter to state assemblyman Steve McLaughlin and Senator Kathy Marchione.

David moved that the CAC request that the leadership of the town of New Lebanon act to amend the executive law in relation to including the Wyomanock Creek in the definition of "inland waterways" for the purposes waterfront revitalization. Cynthia seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Cynthia will request that this resolution be put on the agenda for the next Town Board meeting. Documentation citing an example of a recent waterway designation nearby will be forwarded to the Town Board.

Anna collected the original viewshed analysis documents, with photos, prepared by Karen Ross.

Discussion of next steps for the Natural Resource Conservation Plan ensued.

1. Define the purpose and content of the NRCP
2. Identify and categorize large resource type areas (e.g. agricultural land, ridge, floodplain, forest, etc.). Use GIS maps, aerial photographs, etc.
3. Draft protocol and process for field assays
4. Recruit and train field team
5. Identify parcels for assays

**The next meeting of the New Lebanon CAC will occur on Monday June 22, 2015, at the Samson Environmental Center at Darrow School, 6:30-8:00pm.**