

Conservation Advisory Council, Town of New Lebanon
Minutes for monthly meeting December 12, 2024

Present: CAC members: Peg Munves, Bruce Shenker, Bill O'Neill, Donald Lamonaca and Steve Powers via Zoom. Also attending- Town Council Member Craig Skerkis and Member-elect Joanne Amlaw

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 P.M.

Trees for Tribs: Mr. Skerkis and Ms. Amlaw joined this part of the meeting. After discussion of the pros and cons of whether the protective tubing supporting the saplings were an eyesore or needed to enhance their growth it was decided to leave the tubes in place in place. Committee members will continue monitor the growing trees and shrubs.

PARK Erosion Mitigation: There is \$40,000 in the Town's 2025 budget for erosion control in Shatford Park, according to Steve Powers. It was agreed we should consult with an engineer to devise to determine what steps to take protecting the stream bank.

Water Source Protection and Wastewater Feasibility: Well testing continued into November with over 150 tests done. Testing will continue in 2025 the cost covered by previously allocated ARP Af funds.

PERC tests have been done at several sites regarding the Wastewater feasibility study. The BEDC will survey property owners and business owners likely to be included in the water district.

PCB testing came back negative around the brownfield site. More to be done

Conservation Advisory Council or Board?: It was considered if the CAC should take steps to upgrade and be designated a Board. Peg consulted Gretchen Stevens formerly with Hudsonia and Nan Stolzenberg on the matter. They were for it considering it may give the CAC more access to the TB on topics related to CAC. A local law change would be required for the designation. The committee opted to remain a council at this time.

Open Space Inventory: Peg and Bruce will present a proposal to the Town board in February for putting maps onto the Town website. Part of the cost (\$3,000-\$5,000) can be covered by Hudsonia.

CSC: Steve reported the town received a \$250,000 grant for efficiency upgrades, such as heat pumps, to buildings including the community center.

The composting program has been a success with wide participation.

ZRC: The Quality of Life Comm. joined the meeting and made an appeal to promote a range of housing options at all income levels to be considered in pertinent future discussions.

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2025 5:00 PM at Town Hall

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted Donald Lamonaca