

**Minutes, Gardiner Open Space Commission Meeting,
Hybrid format/ in Town Hall and on Zoom. September 12, 6:00 -7:30 PM**

Attendance: In person: Jean-Ann McGrane, Kay Hoiby, Tara Hoey, Laura Rose
On Zoom: Laura Wong-Pan, Linda Geary, Kellie George

Quote for this meeting brought by Laura Wong-Pan:

"I only feel angry when I see waste. When I see people throwing away things we could use."
- Mother Teresa

Opening Business:

August meeting minutes approved. Motion by Kay second Laura Rose. No objections.

October 17, 2022, 6 -7:30 PM next meeting, hybrid format, on Zoom and in person in Town Hall.
(Tentative date/ to be confirmed with TH by Jean)

Kay to offer a quote for the next meeting.

GOSC Goals for 2022: Action Steps Updates

Goal #4: Support the Preservation of Agricultural Lands Kay

Discussion - **fall educational series** to coordinate with the CPF campaign.

Kay discussed Community Education and Outreach of Agricultural Lands outline.

Outreach session is scheduled for October 24 with Scenic Hudson. Kay reserved Town Hall and the zoom link. Kay to confirm if Cari Watkins Bates is able to attend in person.

Advertising going out in, Hudson Valley One, TOG website, town sign,
How do we get to the farmers?

Tara to email John and Becky to see what's the best way to reach farmers to get them info on this program. John generated a list of Gardiner farmers while working on the CPP mapping.

Direct Mailers to farmers. Postcards. Maybe John Benner or Becky Fullam can help us do this farmer outreach.

NYS Farmland Protection Grant, Tara checked in with David Behm.

"I do not anticipate any FPIG grant opportunity to be offered during this State Fiscal Year (which ends 3/31/2023). I do anticipate that the next FPIG grant opportunity will be announced next spring (probably May); however, you'll need to stay tuned to the Department's Funding Opportunities webpage and/or to Grants Gateway regarding a formal announcement of any FPIG grant opportunity." David Behm.

Fact sheet from ag and markets? **Laura Wong-Pan** is looking to see if we can use any Ag and Market documents for farmer education.

Goal #1: Support efforts to create a Community Preservation Plan. Jean

Status update:

The plan was approved. The local laws have all been passed!!

This part of the work has been completed.

CPP maps.

Laura Rose

Laura is working on map updates with ECC and Vassar. They are meeting every few weeks. Completion of this round of updates is targeted for the end of the semester; discussed if Town must approve updates before we add them to the public maps.

Goal #2: Ensure the Town monitors its conservation easements and preserved lands.

Laura Rose

WVLT lawyers, Town lawyers and the Town Supervisor approved the agreement.

It was signed in August.

Later in September, WVLT will start monitoring. WVLT will get all monitoring done before December 31, 2022. GOSC can accompany WVLT on site visits. Laura Rose will email the group as scheduling of WVLT becomes available.

Discussed: Is it appropriate for GOSC to stay in the role of supervising the monitoring long term? If not/ to whom do we hand it over and when does this change begin?

Also discussed: Over the long term will GOSC and the CPF committee that decides how to spend the CPF funds, (assuming it's passed,) overlap in their duties?

Goal #3: Educate and Encourage Voluntary Conservation

- Gardiner Day Planning

Tara, Laura R, Kay

Gardiner Day will be October 1st at Majestic Park from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Set up move in is 9:00am to 10:30am. We have requested two table spots be reserved in the pole barn. Waiting on revised application to submit for GOSC. There's no vendor fee due for GOSC.

WVLT - CPP table to be close together.

Permission to amend the agenda? ECC Is having a presentation on

9/27/22 7:00 there's a meeting online to show the planning board how to use the map. Will it be recorded and made public? It should be. Special meeting of the planning board.

9/28/22 Educational meeting of the CPP and CPF. Hybrid meeting at town hall. 7:00.

Budget for next year.

Jean

Expenditures for training and public outreach were Ted Fink's Hudson Valley Greenway Grant - this will be refunded to our account.

Items to be included in budget request for 2023

Baseline inventory report. \$ 4000

Monitoring \$ 7000 next year.

Material mailing training \$ 1000

Opportunity to do one baseline or survey exists this year, as we have an additional 1K in the monitoring line.

Use last year's data on pricing, and propose additional money for one extra baseline per year.

Gardiner Day Planning discussion:

Do we have any signage for the table? No. We will need to purchase this.

Maybe we can hang maps on the pole barn walls, inside or out. Do we need anything to happen with the maps for that?

Can we project maps onto the wall?

What would the group like to see happen at our table?

Include the preserved in Gardiner Map.

Interactive opportunities? Computers and projectors.

Laura and Tara will meet after Labor Day to start planning.

ECC proposal for 10 acre zoning

Tara

The ECC is exploring 10 acre zoning for Gardiner. If ECC wants to proceed with this, they could come present to GOSC after the November election. Tara will update Roberta.

Gardiner Activities related to GOSC

- Drinking Water Protection Committee No update.

Gardiner Gazette next issue, Conservation Monitoring program article? Jean is going to ask Laura Rose about writing this.

Discussion of Cell Tower approval on North Mountain Road.

Tara

We advised the Town. Our advice wasn't acknowledged and perhaps wasn't considered either. Yet this is our role, isn't it?

From Town Code:

§ 165-3 Open Space Commission.

Powers and duties of the Commission. The Commission's role is to advise and assist the Town Board in protecting undeveloped land and other natural and cultural resources as defined in the Open Space Plan. The Commission shall have the authority to:

Discussion:

We asserted ourselves but were not asked. The more we give opinions about things the more it dilutes our words. We seem to be respected as a group. We should be selective about what we weigh in on. At the same time: Tara makes a good point.

ECC's 10 acre proposal - Town Board is not currently considering this. Laura Wong-Pan said this doesn't seem like something we want to weigh in at this time as we don't have enough information and it isn't our role.

Meeting ending 7:05