

Peekskill CAC Meeting, January 12, 2023 Minutes

In Attendance: Jan Melillo, Lise Prown, Courtney Williams, Elaine Caccoma, Marie Inserra, Amy Wiggins, and Kay Barthelmes, guest: Jamie MacDonald, Vanessa Agudelo

1. Meeting called to order at 6:40pm

2. Welcome to Jamie MacDonald, Sustainability Coordinator (SC)

- Jamie described his background.
- Current schedule: 4 hours Peekskill in PM; 4 hours Rhinebeck in AM.
Works remotely but plans to visit City Hall at least once a month.
- Members reviewed CAC goals with him and desire to align with City's goals.

3. CAC goals, open roles, 2023 goals

- Chris did not renew CAC membership, but could volunteer for projects
- Open seat, please suggest possible new member. Next month, meeting at City Hall in person.
- Need vice-chair, corresponding secretary, and possible term limits for chair. Jan said she could help with correspondence. After the meeting, Carmine said she could make herself available to help out more especially at meetings during the day.
- Jamie reviewing CSC and CEC completed projects for possible Bronze status.
- Next step: establish a Task Force. Will work with City Manager to organize.
- Jamie is also working on CAPI (Climate Action Planning Institute)

4. Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) Update

- Review of submitted edits complete.
- Public meeting via Zoom: Feb. 7, 2023, 6 – 7:30pm. Managed by MJ consultants.
- MJ will post a webinar on Jan. 16 for registration.
- MJ will develop flier with information that can be distributed.
- Website will be on City website, link on CAC. www.PeekskillNRI.com
- Translation capabilities on website.
- CAC: please submit more hours for matching part of grant.

5. Planning Commission- 201 North Division, GDC at Railroad Avenue

- Discussion of change in C-3 Zoning. Needed for mixed use building
Would impact other projects, in particular former, White Plains Linen building.
- Broad discussion of qualifications for bonus in new construction.
- PC recommended adding requirement to utilize green technology to get bonus floors.

6. Status Updates

- DRI – no activity
- Tree City USA application – submitted on time with assistance from Jamie
- DWSP2 – Stakeholders meet in December. Public presentation will be announced shortly.
- Food Scraps – Chair sent reminder emails to Chris Gross, DPW. No response.

7. Environmental Film Series

- Plan movie about radioactivity or another about indigenous people
- EFS has access to \$1,000. for program this year.

8. New Business

- (Jan) What is role of CAC members sitting in on City Board meetings? How much should the liaison intervene topically?
- Group discussed possibility of developing working groups within CAC monthly meetings to discuss particular topic in break out groups.

9. Education and Outreach Events

- Amy suggested we provide information to citizens about infrastructure funds that might be available

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Next month's meeting on February 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm at City Hall

Some CAC members continued to discuss the NYS Stretch Code. Volunteers agreed to research neighboring communities for information on whether they have adopted the Stretch Code and enter information into a google doc set up by Courtney.

Sustainable Westchester has information as well as NYSACC has a data base about e-codes at <https://NYSACC.org/index.php/ordinance-library.com>.

NYS Stretch Code producing a guidance document in March 2023.
<https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/NYSECC2020PI/effective-use-of-the-energy-conservation-construction-code-of-new-york-state>.