

## MINUTES – OLIVE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL – JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup> 2022

1. Introductions and roll call. Dan White, Simon Strauss, Co-Chairs; Matt Kovner. Jac Conaway was in attendance for the initial part of the meeting. Apologies from Chet Karwatowski and Ellie Reese.
2. Approval of May 18, 2022 minutes. Approved unanimously.

### Policies and Projects:

#### External Town:

3. Collaboration with other towns (Rochester, Marbletown, Shandaken and Woodstock)  
Matt met on June 13 with the Marbletown and Rochester Environmental Boards/CCs. They are setting up the “3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday” educational program on environmental issues. They are promoted/screened via a Youtube channel, Zoom meetings and PR outreach. The tagline is “engage, inspire, expand.”  
The first of these events is on July 21 with a bird expert, Dr. Kara Bilensky.  
August 18 Mike D’Arcy (from Ulster County DEC, who attended our Energy Efficiency Workshop), on Composting  
September (likely only in person) – Ryan Trepani from the Catskill Forest Alliance,  
Matt
4. Climate Smart Communities and Bronze certification (“CSC”).
  - a. Bronze status – we did not make bronze status after our submission, as more detail needs to be supplied to evidence each action. We will gather the detail and re-apply.
  - b. ASHRAE audits of Town buildings and ballfield lighting; next steps. Suggest specific instructions arising from the audits be communicated to whomever at the Town is responsible for building maintenance. Some failings are quite severe e.g. vent pipes terminating in lofts, vermin, ruined insulation etc.
  - c. Separate meeting for committee to set strategy and priorities for CSC and Clean Energy Communities, to gain points towards Silver status and focus on potential grants. Focus on (a) above first. Matt

#### Internal Town:

5. Education – Update on the Home Energy Savings Workshop. We have the list of names of those attending, and those interested in the CAC to add to our email list. Matt
6. Open Space Inventory – Update on DEC Open Space Priority Area (OSPA) project (aka “Critical Environmental Area”). Olive has received a grant from Hudsonia for Hudsonia/NYS-DEC to work with us on identifying and designating one or more CEA’s

(we prefer the term OSPA). One meeting has been held already. The next is scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup>. 6 Olive residents have volunteered to lend their time. Dan

7. Envision Boiceville – OCAC contribution to Envision Boiceville’s pre-proposal to the National Fish and Wildlife Fund. The Nature Conservancy has been funding work by Cynthia Nikitin and Karine Duteil along with OHS students to plan uses for the cleared parcels in Boiceville that lie in the flood plain. A first cut of recommendations has been made and public hearing held with the Town Board to discuss. Matt needs agendas and meeting minutes as part of our CSC work to demonstrate “public engagement.” Dan
8. Beautification – Update on Pollinator Pathway, American Legion Hall plants move to corner of Mountain Road and Rt 28.
  - Woodstock Land Conservancy is having a pollinator event at SUNY Ulster.
  - In the short-term physical labor is needed, e.g. for preparing a spot at Jo Ostrander’s property at Mountain Road and Rt 28 in Shokan. Dan will follow up with Rich DeRuvo of Onteora High School. Ellie will follow up with the girl scouts.  
Jac, Dan, Jo
9. Community Choice Aggregation update. Kingston has not yet issued its RFP. Newburgh has issued an RFP for which results are not yet out. Simon

**Administration:**

10. Mailing lists and communications. Next meeting. Ellie
11. Other business All