



**TOWN OF GREENBURGH
Conservation Advisory Council**

Greenburgh Town Hall

Lee F. Jackson Room

Minutes of Meeting Thursday, December 12, 2019

ROLL CALL:

CAC Members Present: T. Tori, M. Sigal, G. Theisen, M. Beal, D. Maiello

Town of Greenburgh: Councilman Ken Jones, Town Board Liason with CAC

Applicants:

Others: Alyssa Zhu, Maya Barmechea, Ananya Shah (members of Solar Flares)

Rupa Shah, Gayotri Goswami, Yixuan Gony, Vishal Shah (family of Solar Flares)

E. Hart (Town resident interested in joining CAC)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

November 14, 2019 minutes approved.

PRESENTATION:

The CAC listened to “Backyard Biome” - a presentation by the Solar Flares. The Solar Flares spoke very clearly and confidently as they described the premise and science behind their idea of Backyard Biomes as a way to address climate change including the planting of native trees and shrubs in residential yards. The graphics in their powerpoint presentation supported their oration well. The group is also working on an app to help residents plant backyard biomes in their own yards. The CAC was very impressed with these students and the quality of their presentation.

CORRESPONDENCE:

No new correspondence.

WETLANDS AND WATER COURSES PERMIT REFERRALS:

No new referrals.

ON-GOING ITEMS - updates when available

- Tree Law - The public hearing on the Tree Law was closed on December 11, 2019 and the record will be held open for 5 days. The Town Board will vote on the Law on Thursday December 19.
- Floating Zones – concept proposed by developer of senior living project. The CAC discussed the position that Floating Zones are inconsistent with the Town’s Comprehensive Plan and that, per the Comprehensive Plan, the Special Permit process is the tool that should be used for reviewing applications for senior living related zone changes.
- Elmwood County Club – no new discussion.
- 4 Corners proposal – no new discussion.
- Excess Food for Needy Law – Representatives are looking for an assembly sponsor of the Law.

- Development process and procedures – local land use advisory committees - no new discussion.
- SWAB (Saw Mill River Watershed Advisory Board) – no new discussion.
- Web page – CAC member Greg Theisen has been working with the Town and the Webmaster to improve the CAC’s web page so that the CAC can post reports, links, agendas, etc.
- Proposed senior living projects at Maplewood Swim and Tennis Club and Metropolis Golf Club - The Town’s Dept of Community Development and Conservation invited the CAC to walk the Maplewood and Metropolis sites with the Planning Board. The CAC decided to form 2 sub-committees to focus on these projects – Greg Thiesen and Donna Maiello will track Metropolis; Margaret Beal and Erin Hart will track Maplewood.

NEW BUSINESS

- Planning for 2020
 - Floating Zones
 - Rollout of Tree Law with Dept. of CD&C
 - Confirm how ConEdison’s Tree Law works with proposed Town Tree Law
 - Web Page
 - Blower Law
 - Other
- The Town has created a Technology Group. The Group is looking to create a forum where the Town can share information and residents can voice their concerns.

ESTABLISH DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, January 9, 2020.