



## TOWN OF COLONIE

347 OLD NISKAYUNA ROAD

LATHAM, N.Y. 12110



### **Town of Colonie Conservation Advisory Council Meeting Minutes – July 7, 2016**

**Present:** Ellen Rosano, Chair, and members Linda Whelton, Sudhir Kulkarni, Don Allard, and Laura Weed, Town Board representative Jennifer Whalen.

Meeting began at 7:05. A discussion of what we should include in meeting minutes began the meeting. The group decided to include only issues relevant to the CACs charge. Don Allard moved to approve the amended minutes, Sudhir Kukarni seconded.

Laura Weed gave the planning board report:

7:00 PM      Casale Equipment Rental  
                 340 New Karner Road  
                 Sketch Plan Review  
                 One-story 8,000 sq. ft. office/showroom & garage  
                 Presented by Lansing Engineering  
                 TDE - CHA Companies

The Casale Company plans to expand. They have a small facility currently on Central Ave. There will be two lots, one developed now, one later. A loop road is proposed around the parcel, two roads, one in one out. Tractor trailers can pull in. There will be outdoor display space, and parking for employees and customers. Stuto: Its in the Pinebush. Mion: Where will the propane be stored? Developer: Maybe no propane. The business is getting out of the shipping industry. Neil Gifford will be involved.

TDE Joe Grasso: Egress issues, suggestion one curb cut. The site is completely wooded, and the contractor plans to clear-cut. The contractor plans 35% green space, but the clearcutting has to be examined. The Pine bush also needs to be involved. A buffer of a DEC wetland intrudes. So DEC and the Army Corp of Engineers will be involved. The Storm water management system should be autonomous, and should avoid impacts on wetlands and the Pinebush. The maintenance of the stormwater system has to be guaranteed by the contractor.

7:30 PM      Planning Board and Conservation Advisory Committee Education Session. The powerpoint presentation for this session will be posted on the PEDD web.

Ellen reminded us that the tree meeting will be Tuesday night.

Ellen and Mike Brennan attended the meeting held by Save the Trees. STT had a number of presenters from the Mohawk Land Conservancy, and other conservation groups. The primary concerns expressed were about schools and traffic in the town.

Ellen and Laura are going to the Re-Leaf conference in Saratoga next weekend. Workshops will feature events on grants, urban forestry, invasives. Etc.

Project review: Valente mixed-use project part 6 apartments and retail buildings. The board noted that the plans do not specify what trees are there and which of the existing trees they plan to remove. The foot print of the building also needs to be clearly specified. There also needs to be a landscaping plan.

Project Review: Donna Drive housing development. There is no statement on the plan of any existing trees. Is this because there are none, or because the developer neglected to mention them? Laura Weed has visited the site and there are many large trees at the long dead-end side of Donna Dr.

Don Allard: The Asian long-horned beetle video will be played on the public access channel by the library.

The committee reviewed an updated review form that Ellen proposed and the committee recommended adding historical significance to the form, then accepting it.

Ellen reported on the Comprehensive Review Plan. The town plans to continue with the current TDEs. There will be postings on the Town Website concerning when and where the meetings will be. Don Allard asked why the Town Board cannot refuse new development because of town density, or lack of services. He would like the comprehensive plan committee to review this. Next meeting is Aug 29<sup>th</sup>.

Sudhir motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:45. Don Seconded.