



# TOWN OF COLONIE

347 OLD NISKAYUNA ROAD

LATHAM, N.Y. 12110



## Town of Colonie Conservation Advisory Council Meeting Minutes December 19, 2013

Present: Bob Ulrich, Don Allard, Linda Whelton, Michael Brennon, Laura Weed and Ellen Rosano

**Planning Board Reports:** Linda Whelton provided notes of the Dec 3, 2013 Planning Board Meeting: **Regarding Canterbury Crossings PDD** (Stacey Court & Clarice Lane) ...a request was made to move plantings to outer part of driveways instead of in between. It was determined to be a better design and was approved. No loss of green space. **Regarding Nissan of Latham** (the former Smith Pontiac at 976 Loudon Rd) ....there is concern about green space (a waiver is being requested) and there are some other environmental concerns. They will be using porous pavement. Regarding First Columbia Office (40 Century Hill Drive)....application for Final Review and SEQRADetermination. Bedford Pear is being proposed along the street and in island. This is an apparent invasive species. There was a discussion about “invasive” vs “non-native”. Also, there will be dense plantings to screen along the Northway. CT Male does not want trees to obstruct the view of its buildings. White Pines had been proposed 20 ft apart. The spacing was okay, but it was felt a shorter species should be used (Austrian or Norway Pine) **but Norway Pine is invasive.** There will be perennials planted near a utility area. SEQR determination was that there was no significant impact. **Regarding Texas Roadhouse** (150 Wolf Rd) Amendment to Final Site Plan – A resident spoke regarding the buffer area between a temporary parking lot and Kenlyn Drive. The affected homeowners wanted an extension of the existing fence and trees. This was not recommended by the Board and 5 Canadian Hemlocks will be planted. **Regarding Northern Pass PPD** (1226 Loudon Road)- There are approximately 23 acres with existing walking and mountain bike paths on the property that will be donated, with public access granted. SEQR was done without any negative declarations.

**Other Business:** Some discussion regarding the invasive & non-native plants suggested for use by contractors before the Planning Board.

A synopsis was presented about the **SEQR training at Hudson Valley Community College** on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> attended by Michael Brennon, Laura Weed and Ellen Rosano. The meeting concerned changes to the SEQR Environmental Assessment Forms (EAFs) needed to be submitted by lead agencies. Projects are classified as Type I, Type II and Unlisted. Lead agency writes the report and submits the forms. Courts can enforce SEQR. There is a short form and a long form to be used depending on the project scope.

2014 Planning Board Meetings and Bulletin Board signup sheet was passed around.

**Conservation Day:** Final review of trees to be purchased ....

Witch Hazel	100 trees	at \$42 *2012 pricing
Gray Dogwood	100 trees	at \$42
Japanese Larch	250 trees	at \$62
Service Berry	200 trees	at \$84
Red Pine	250 trees	at \$62
Norway Spruce	250 trees	at \$62
Nanny Berry	100 trees	at \$42
Red Ossier	300 trees	at \$126
Wild Apple	100 trees	at \$66

Discussion regarding the distribution of responsibility to invite groups to Conservation Day. Michael and Suhir to invite South Colonie High School and North Colonie High School Key Clubs to participate in the preparation of plantings for distribution on Conservation Day, the afternoon prior. Don to contact Shaker Heritage Society to invite those responsible for the herb garden to participate in Conservation Day. Some discussion about other groups to invite and other preparations to be made.