

Minutes of the 6/7/23 CAC Meeting

Present: Andrew Shapiro, Kristen Schara, Erin Nylen, Ralph Dunham, David Yozzo, Joan Paccione

Minutes approved for the May meeting with one correction. There is no mowing of the rail trail until the Fall.

Discussions:

1. Grants through the Hudson River Estuary and the Climate Smart Community might be available for us to complete the NRI. Melinda has proposed to hire a grant writer to assist us for this purpose and for other boards in need of grants.
2. The Ulster County Online Tool is being worked on. At this time there is no date for access. The UC Department of the Environment is going to give an update at the next EMC meeting on 7/26.
3. We emphasized the need to keep our forests and protect our water. Andy said we should have strong wording in our Comprehensive plan. He cited possible areas of the plan where it could be inserted. Those being E1, E4-1, including CC 4-1 wellhead protection.
4. Ralph mentioned the Unit Management Plan for the Sundown Wild Forest. They want to increase the car capacity at the Blue Hole to 80 and decrease the lower car fields from 13 to 10.
5. The Ulster County Parcel viewer has added a core habitat layer.
6. There is one correction to mowing. It was decided that there would be reduced mowing on the rail trail this summer. It will encourage pollinators and wildlife habitat.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Paccione