

MINUTES

Marbletown Environmental Conservation Commission July 1, 2016

Time: 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Location: Rondout Municipal Center
1925 Lucas Ave.
Cottkill, NY 12419

Members Present: [X] Tom Konrad (Chair)
[X] Doug Adams (Town Board Representative)
[] Paul DiGrazia
[] Eric Stewart
[X] Iris Marie Bloom
[X] Jason Zimmerman
[X] Margot Becker

In Attendance: Karin Reynolds, potential member

Note: **Rescheduled Meeting**
Due to scheduling conflicts, the June meeting was pushed back one day. This rescheduled meeting time was posted in advance on the Marbletown calendar.

2:14p **May Minutes**
Members agreed to approve the minutes via email.

2:16p **Streetlight Update**
Tom gave a status update. The town sent out letters to residents who live near lights that may not be needed. After viewing the comments, five streetlights were removed per resident request and five were removed due to lack of feedback. Nine lights will require public comment, which the Town Board voted to hold in September.

Tom suggested that the ECC be present during public comment to go through each light one by one.

One complaint that was taken from the letters was the speed of drivers on Leggett Road. Members discussed possible traffic calming solutions. Jason will make some calls and request feedback.

2:30p

Plastic Bags

The education event and the legislation workshop were both held in June. The workshop was mentioned on WAMC on June 3rd, more than two weeks prior to the event. The final step before the Town Board decides to hold a hearing is to complete the wording of a draft resolution.

Margot will write a FAQ using sources that Tom has collected. Tom will finalize a draft.

2:49p

Transfer Station Revenue

Tom asked members for ideas on how the town can generate additional income at the Transfer Station.

Margot suggested sales of reclaimed items. The discussion included:

- Where to store items
- Staffing
- Liability if items need to be pulled from roll-offs
- Payment methods
- Neighboring towns that already have similar revenue streams in place, including New Paltz and Gardiner.

Jason suggested selling composters. This part of the discussion included:

- Whether selling home units might turn residents off to bringing their compost to the Transfer Station if/when that service begins.
- How many models should be sold
- What type of educational information should be included with the composter at time of sale
- Bears

Several members said they would collect information. Tom also brought up promoting Freecycle as a way to cut down on MSW.

3:37p

Pilgrim Pipelines

Iris gave the group an update on efforts to stop the planned construction.

The discussion shifted to whether Marbletown can do anything else to help neighboring towns. Iris will send information to Tom and Doug for their input.

3:44p

UCEMC

Eric attended the latest meeting of the Ulster County Environmental Management Council. He sent ECC members a report via email.

The UCEMC requested information from the town regarding any plans for Creek Week. Eric will investigate possibilities.

The Council also requested a status update from the town regarding Climate Smart Communities. Jason will send Eric the information.

3:46p

Riverkeeper

The Marbletown ECC has been invited to participate in developing regionally specific educational materials and guidance documents on water protection. The Rochester ECC will hold an organizational meeting on July 14th. All members present said they would be unable to attend.

3:48p

ECC Meeting Day

The ECC has been open to rescheduling the monthly meeting day if it works for any new members. Since Karin doesn't know if she'll have the free time necessary to become a member, the group decided to stay with the last Thursday of the month for the time being.

3:52p

Recruiting

Tom asked Doug about the possibility of aligning meetup groups and scheduling meeting time at the Municipal Center. Benefits to the ECC would be potential recruiting, helping local environmental causes and having new forums to publicize events.

3:58p

Plastic Straws

The Town Board did not vote on the proclamation in June, but Doug said he might be able to put in on the agenda in July. Iris asked about the possibility of inviting people from the restaurant industry for a photo op. Doug and Iris will work on the details.

4:03p

Adjourn

Tom motion to adjourn the meeting. Jason seconded.

The Marbletown ECC is an advisory commission that meets at 7p on the last Thursday of every month. Meetings are held at the Rondout Municipal Center and are open to the public. Please consult the calendar at <http://www.marbletown.net> for confirmed meeting dates and times.