



CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

August 7, 2024

6:30 In Person

Lansing Town Hall Board Room

MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Present: Ed Dubovi, Lisa Scanlon, Robyn Bailey, John Fleming

Absent: Todd Walters, Brian Boerman

2. Presentation on Climate Smart Communities was canceled due to transportation issue.

There was a general discussion of the program and what would be needed to move forward if the Town Board saw value in the becoming more active in the program. The CSC has a list of climate smart endeavors which are given various "points". To receive credit, documentation must be submitted to verify that the action was taken. For future efforts, plans can be made to collect the documentation as the projects progress. For past projects these documents would have to be procured from archives which might place a burden on town staff.

3. Preliminary discussions on Climate Contingency planning

As climate change is having greater impacts on communities, there are some units that are developing plans to deal with health and service disruptions caused by the "500 year "flood and now more frequent tornados and severe winds. Attempts will be made to obtain plans that have been developed to see how they might be implemented in the Town.

4. NPA presentation

Siobhan Hull for Cornell Cooperative Extension outlined the Non-Pipeline Alternative program that offers certain Lansing residents significant rebates on switching from natural gas to traditional heat pumps or geothermal heat pumps. The program has one more year to run and there still is significant funding available. One can contact Siobhan at Siobhan Hull smh372@cornell.edu.

5. Draft resolution concerning Norfolk Southern property

A draft resolution had been forward to CAC members for comment. The resolution was developed in response to the identification of this property as a high priority conservation item by the Open Space Conservation Plan. Given the apparent complexity of the NS rail right-of-way, it was deemed essential that efforts be made to establish ownership issues and to notify Norfolk Southern of the interest of the Town in this property. CAC members had no issue with the resolution.

6. Discussion on the need for 2 new regular members and a student member