

CAC Meeting, January 9, 2023 Minutes--Draft

Attending via Zoom: CAC members Jamie, David, Jane, Jono, Kim, Amy, Jay, Wally. Meeting commenced at 7:00 pm.

- We approved the December 5, 2022 minutes.
- PB update by Erin:
 - Montchak project was approved subject to Fire Chief approval of new design for driveway turnarounds. Applicant reiterated promise not to cut any more trees.
 - Simons Road site: There has been much disturbance near wetland and clearcutting of trees that the architect had promised not to cut. David will check PB minutes to see what assurances were given. Would photos have helped document what appears to be violations of their commitments to PB? Can trees be protected under current zoning? Hillsdale's ridgeline protection zone does require PB approval for any trees cut over a certain size. (Jamie will send that language to Wally) Should we document Simons Rd site and Scott Cohen's three sites? There is a need to make very clear on site plan what exists and what is considered the area of disturbance. Any verbal agreements about tree protection or other environmental concerns can be added to the PB approval notes and included in the PB minutes.
 - We discussed appointments to PB as chair, vice chair and alternates. Also, it appears that the current makeup is more amenable to discussions within the PB. There is some belief on the part of outgoing members and at least one current member that there are too many PB members in favor of protecting the environment.
 - There is a feeling that Nan's draft memo will help the PB protect the environment better, especially with introduction of checklists.
 - There was a discussion of how to document and describe and measure areas of disturbance, rather than just trees cut. Was there a SWPP for the Simons Road site? What is the definition of "area of disturbance"? Should we document Velasquez and Simons Road sites as "lessons to be learned"?
 - PB has until January 19th to get comments on Nan's memo. Checklists should alleviate our burden. We should get comments to Jay by the end of this week for him to consolidate into a memo to PB for Nan.
- ZRC revisions:
 - What is Hugh's agenda for the next round of ZRC meetings?
 - Refer to Nan's memo re SCOZ to finalize our memo to Hugh (done).
- Year End Report:

Jamie will revise once more and send to David for final editing (done). Jamie will send to TB and will present to the TB on January 19th as one of her final actions as CAC chair.

- Trainings: We will attempt to list any trainings/seminars, etc. that members have attended on a monthly basis so that the year-end report is a bit easier to prepare.
- Amphibian crossings:
--Amy and Jay would like to join effort this year. Jamie will consult the biodiversity map to recommend good places to monitor and will propose ways to engage the public. Having team leaders in Ancram neighborhoods would be ideal to communicate nights to go out if there is greater interest in monitoring. .
- There is a desire for CAC to meet in person, if conditions improve. One possibility is to meet outside at the town hall once it is light later and subject to schedule of ZRC.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

DRAFT