

June 1, 2017 – Special Board meeting

Town board members Present: Terry Sullivan, Jeff Nayer, Kelly Miller-Simmons, and Stanley Gansowski. Absent: Jeanne Mettler

Presenters:

Vincent Dubois: president of the Columbia Greene Chapter of Trout Unlimited and region four vice president to NYS counsel of Trout Unlimited and Columbia Country Sportsman Federation Fish Chairmen.

Tracy Testo and Audrey Kropp: from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties.

Tracy Brown: The Northeastern Restoration Coordinator for Trout Unlimited.

Andrew Mayer and Megan Lung: From DEC Hudson River Estuary Program.

Supervisor Nayer opened the meeting at 10:10am.

Tracy Testo gave a presentation on “The Hudson River Estuary Watershed Resiliency Project” which uses information to identify high priority bridges and culverts for upgrade or replacement.

Andrew Mayer commented that Copake was on the list of towns in Columbia Country to be surveyed using the North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAACC) protocols.

Andrew Mayer spoke on the movement of aquatic organisms and the capacity of existing culverts to withstand floods.

Looking to flag Culverts that are:

- Identified by the Highway Superintendent that they are in need of repair.
- Not large enough to handle flood waters.
- Don't allow aquatic passibility.

Tracy Brown gave more examples of completed projects with before and after photos. She also spoke on the Town of Chatham (The green Brook Watershed) and provided a handout of grants available.

Terry was asking for clarification about Grant application time lines.

Tracy said that she, through Trout Unlimited, would be willing to write a grant that would look at survey data and prioritize at no cost to the town.

Andrew Mayer asked if the town board would like the DEC to conduct an assessment of the road/stream intersections on town roads. This is a free service and the town is not bound to do anything with the information collected.

Councilperson Gansowski made a motion to accept Andrew's proposal, 2nd by Councilperson Sullivan. All in favor – Yes.

Supervisor Nayer would like to appoint Councilperson Gansowski to be liaison to DEC on culvert assessment project.

Councilperson Miller-Simmons made the motion. 2nd by Councilperson Sullivan. All in favor – Yes.

Councilperson Sullivan make a motion to appoint returning summer park counselors:

Jordan Cummings

Dakota Curtsinger

Maya Anderson

Ben Anderson

Isabella Lugo

And new counselors:

Krysta Skabowski

Hunter Goodacre

Nicole Kernan

2nd by Councilperson Gansowski

All in favor – Yes

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Supervisor Nayer. All in favor – Yes

11:40am