

## Minutes of the Sept. 17, 2017, Meeting of the Putnam Valley Commission for the Conservation of the Environment

In Attendance: CCE members Mike Usai, chair, Mia Azcue, Pat Grove, Eileen Reilly, Julie Ruben and Glenn Sapir; Wendy Whetsel, liaison to the Town Board;

Absent: CCE member Friedel Muller-Landau

Chair Mike Usai called the meeting to order at Town Hall at 5:43 p.m.

Mike invited updates to previous Putnam Valley Commission for the Conservation of the Environment (CCE) business by going through the Action Items listed in the minutes of the 9/3/19 CCE meeting.

Glenn Sapir reported that he had heard from PV Wetlands Inspector Bruce Barber, who thanked us for the opportunity to review the proposed eco-tip on safer herbicide alternatives to Roundup and offered no suggested changes. Therefore, Glenn forwarded the eco-tip to the town webmaster, who has posted it on the town website. Glenn said that he had no further updates to the script for the proposed video on controlling Oriental bittersweet. He reported that he will arrange to pick up three easels, three maps and three foam boards, with clips, from Karen Doyle of the Hudson Highlands Land Trust for use at PV Town Day. He further reported that through his son-in-law, who is a teacher in the PV High School, the sponsor of the photography club received a copy of the What's in Your Backyard flyer. Glenn also reported that he could bring two tables and/or chairs to Town Day, but would need assistance carrying them because of restrictions following upcoming cataract surgery.

Mike reported that he hadn't been in touch with Bruce Barber on incorporating the NRI into the revised Master Plan, but said he would attempt to do that in the next month. Mike reported that he had invited Karen Doyle of the HHLT to our next meeting (Oct. 15) to explain the concept of an Open Space Inventory. Mike also said that he had consulted with an ecotoxicologist on the effects of Roundup when applied topically. The ecotoxicologist said this is the best way to apply it and that it minimizes Roundup's negative impact on the environment. His advice is that it is best to use a wand, rag, paint brush or stem injections.

Wendy and Julie agreed that the video could be made at Three Arrows on Oct. 12. Julie might be able to get a videographer from Three Arrows to do the work for free. Otherwise, she is to contact Eileen as soon as possible so she can contact a videographer she knows. Wendy also said she can bring a six-foot table and a standing dressing screen, the latter serving to hang photos. This led to a discussion on ordering stands for hanging pix, and Mia agreed to research and place the order.

Julie Ruben and Wendy agreed on videoing at Three Arrows on Oct. 12

Wendy suggested a brochure on What You Don't Want in Your Backyard for distribution at Town Day. Though all seemed in favor of the idea, nobody took responsibility for creating such a document.

Mia reported not only on the stands for hanging photos, but showed the impressive selection of photos to be framed and exhibited. All framed photos not collected by the photographer at Town Day can be stored at Town Hall. Wendy added that so could any tables and stands we purchase for the CCE. Mia will create labels with the photographer's name on each framed photo, and Glenn added that he would create a fold-out that says "What am I?" on the outside, and will identify the subject of each photo on the inside. Mia was to send Glenn the collection of photos to be exhibited, so he could then create those labels.

Pat Grove reported that she had not heard any more regarding two PVHS student volunteers to serve on the CCE.

We moved on to the third item on the meeting agenda, Town Day. The first topic discussed was our What's in Your Backyard photo exhibit. As mentioned above, Wendy reported that she, Mia and Eileen had met to select the final 15 or so photos to be exhibited. Mia will have the photos printed, framed and labeled with the photographer's name for each. Glenn volunteered to create a foldout, hiding the photo subject's identity, and requested the file of selected photos to accomplish that task. We talked about items we needed and made assignments (See Action Items below).

Discussion turned to Item IV on the agenda, an internal matter. A thoughtful discussion ensued. Two main points were made. The first was that Wendy was to send the Planning Board Agenda not only to the CCE chair but also to all CCE members. Second, all agreed that personnel matters should be discussed at CCE meetings only when all parties involved are present.

Pat inquired about a vernal pool inspection report from Julie and Glenn's spring efforts. Julie and Glenn said a report had been filed last spring, and Glenn said he would resend the report.

Discussion on an upcoming Planning Board meeting on Sept. 23 occurred. The subject is property on Oscawana Lake Rd. by the ambulance HQ where the soil is contaminated. Several CCE members expressed interest in learning more and attending this hearing. Mike was asked to find out how to access Planning Board meeting minutes.

Pat agreed to schedule a meeting with Supervisor Sam Oliverio to discuss various issues regarding the CCE.

Next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 15, at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

**GLENN—Send Pat vernal pool inspection report. Await receipt of images to be exhibited at Town Day and create I.D. fold-outs for each. Get three easels, maps and foam backing on loan from the HHLT. For town Day, bring: two tables and chairs; borrowed items from HHLT; tape and markers; and fold-out subject ID labels for photos.**

**MIKE—Attempt to contact Bruce Barber regarding incorporating the NRI into the revised Master Plan. Find out how to access Planning Board meeting minutes. For Town Day, make and bring 25 copies of each of the CCE eco-tips posted on the PV website and create a Powerpoint of all photo submissions for What's in Your Backyard?**

**WENDY—Finalize plans with Julie for videoing at Three Arrows on Oct. 12. For Town Day, bring: dressing screen for possible photo hanging; one six-foot-long table; and the CCE banner.**

**JULIE—Discuss with Wendy video script and arrange for videoing of introduction on Oct. 12. Recruit videographer from Three Arrows ASAP or let Eileen know that she should contact the videographer she knows. For Town Day, bring: stakes, hammers and string.**

**MIA—Supervise printing and framing of photos for Town Day exhibit. Create a labeling system to identify photographer of each photo. Send Glenn file of all photos to be framed and exhibited, along with any subject ID info that might have been sent with photo submission, so he can proceed with**

**photo subject ID labels. Order stands for hanging photos. For Town Day, bring: framed photos; ordered stands; wire and hooks; two folding book shelves.**

**EILEEN—For Town Day, bring: cooler and ice; a tent; two small tables; brochures.**

**PAT—Follow up with PV HS Environmental Club advisor about student members.**

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Sapir, CCE Secretary