

CAC/Climate Smart Dover Task Force Saturday, June 10, 2017 126 East Duncan Hill Road Dover Plains, NY Evan van Hook, Chair, CAC and CSD Katie Palmer-House, Co-Chair, CSD Constance DuHamel Linda French Debra Kaufman Greggory Mendenhall Janet Pickering Tamar Roman Josh Viertel

- 1. Accept Minutes of the May13, 2017 CAC/CSD Meeting
  - A. draft Minutes of the May 13, 2017 CAC/CSD Meeting

Agenda Items

- 2. Update on Govt. Operations GHG Inventory and Climate Action Plan RFP
- 3. Update on Meeting with School Officials re: Fall 2017 Climate Smart Conference and Art Exhibit and Next Steps
- 4. Update on Development of Natural Resource Inventory
- 5. Ideas for a Climate Smart Dover Logo
- 6. Adjournment



## CAC/Climate Smart Dover Task Force 6/10/2017 draft Minutes of the May 13, 2017 CAC/CSD Meeting

## ATTACHMENTS:

Description

draft May 13, 2017 CAC/CSD Meeting Minutes



# CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC) AND CLIMATE SMART DOVER (CSD) TASKFORCE

### SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2017 DOVER TOWN HALL

Present: Evan van Hook, Greggory Mendenhall, Debra Kaufman, Janet Pickering, Katie Palmer-House, Supervisor French and invited guest, Gretchen Stevens with Hudsonia, Ltd.

The members commended Stancy DuHamel and her colleagues at the Harlem Valley Appalachian Trail Community for their selection as winners of the 2017 Dutchess Tourism Outdoors Award of Distinction. Members also thanked Debra Kaufman for launching the new (Town of Dover) CAC Facebook page and Katie offered to send her any Climate Smart Dover information to post to the page. A motion was made by Greggory Mendenhall, seconded by Supervisor French, the April 8, 2017 CAC/Climate Smart Dover Task Force minutes were unanimously accepted.

Katie Palmer-House reported the Climate Smart Communities certification grant contract submissions had been reviewed by the NYS DEC program manager and recommended for contract approval. She was still investigating draft requests for proposals and M/WBE vendors to move forward with the Govt. Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Climate Action Plan. Evan van Hook offered to send information about a work colleague who could with M/WBE information.

Supervisor French provided an update on the Comprehensive Plan Update (CPU) and other town projects of conservation-related interest. She reported the Pace Land Use Law Center offered to assist the Town with both the narrative development and proposed zoning changes on the CPU.

Chairman van Hook updated members on progress to arrange a meeting with school administrators to sponsor a CAC/CSD Climate Smart Conference and Art Exhibit in the fall. After the meeting with the school officials, it was proposed that a "Save the Date" flyer be created and publicized. Janet reported on the outcome of a recent applicant before the Planning Board.

Members welcomed Gretchen Stevens, a biologist with Hudsonia, Ltd. who, with her colleagues at Hudsonia, Ltd., will assist the Town of Dover in completing a town-wide natural resource inventory (NRI) as part of the Climate Smart Communities certification grant project. She discussed Hudsonia's experience completing another inventory and shared a sample outline. Members offered to assist Hudsonia, Ltd. with the following initial tasks in the preparation of the development of the NRI:

- Debra offered to compile photos of significant conservation-related/environmental sites
- Janet and Katie will develop a list of scenic and special places
- Katie will facilitate a meeting with Gretchen and town historians
- An electronic copy of the CAC's 2015 Open and Protected Space Inventory (map) will be sent to Gretchen and the CAC members for review and reference
- The collection of previous natural resource-related studies and reports compiled by the Town will be scanned and posted to the Town website's (records) public portal for review in preparing the NRI.

The next meeting was scheduled for Saturday, June 10, 2017 starting at 10 a.m. at Dover Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Palmer-House CSD Task Force Co-Coordinator



## CAC/Climate Smart Dover Task Force 6/10/2017 Update on Govt. Operations GHG Inventory and Climate Action Plan RFP



## CAC/Climate Smart Dover Task Force 6/10/2017 Update on Development of Natural Resource Inventory

## ATTACHMENTS:

Description

D Draft Outline of TOD Natural Resource Inventory

## TOWN OF DOVER NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

(draft outline, May 2017)

#### 1. Summary

#### 2. Introduction

- Purpose of the NRI
- Natural resources, ecosystem services, and the public good
- Uses for the NRI by municipal agencies, landowners, developers, conservation organizations, and others

#### 3. Physical Setting

#### 4. Land Uses: Historical and Present Day

#### 5. Natural Resources

- Enduring Features
  - i. Topography & elevations
  - ii. Bedrock & surficial geology
  - iii. Soils
- Water Resources
  - i. Watersheds
  - ii. Groundwater
  - iii. Streams, ponds, lakes, floodplains
  - iv. Wetlands
- Biological Resources
  - i. Habitats/ecological communities
  - ii. Plants
  - iii. Animals
    - Invertebrates (mollusks, odonates, butterflies, moths, bees, ground beetles, ants)
    - o Fishes
    - o Reptiles and amphibians
    - o Birds
    - o Mammals
- Farmland Resources
  - i. Farmland soils
  - ii. Active farmland
- Scenic Resources
  - i. General
  - ii. Special places
- Recreational Resources
  - i. Public-access lands
  - ii. Trails (rail trails, hiking, ATV)
  - iii. Hunting, fishing
- Cultural/historic features (nature-based)

#### 6. Climate

- Current climate conditions
- Climate projections
- Natural areas contributing to climate resilience and adaptation

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#### 7. Threats to Resources of Conservation Concern

- Climate change
- Water resources
- Habitats
- Agricultural land
- Scenic resources

#### 7. Conservation Principles and Measures

#### 8. Protected Lands

#### 9. Legislative Protections for Natural Resources

- State
- County
- Local

### 10. Identifying Local Conservation Priorities

#### 11. Achieving Conservation Goals

- Conservation Tools
  - o Landowner actions
  - o Land acquisition
  - o Conservation easements
  - o Municipal policy, legislation, and environmental review procedures
- Conservation Partners

#### 12. References Cited

13. Acknowledgments

#### **APPENDICES**

Appendix A Glossary Appendix B Explanation of Rarity Ranks Appendix C Plants and Animals of Dover [more]

## FIGURES

#### **Physical Setting**

 (General: munic boundaries, major roads, streams, waterbodies, a few other place names, on hillshade)

#### Land Use History

• (to be decided)

#### Natural Resources

- Enduring Features
  - Topography & elevations
  - Bedrock & surficial geology
- Water Resources
  - Groundwater (unconsolidated aquifers, areas of hydrogeologic sensitivity)
  - Major watersheds & sub-basins
  - Streams, ponds, lakes, wetlands
    - o flood zones
    - water quality classifications
    - o DEC biomonitoring data
- Biological Resources
  - Land cover (NLCD), habitats/ecological communities (a sample)
  - "Important Areas" (NY Natural Heritage Program)
  - "Significant Biodiversity Areas" (NYSDEC)
  - Ecologically Significant Habitats
  - Large forests (NYSDEC)
  - Large meadows (NLCD)
  - [other signif areas? Stone Ch, Seven Wells, Nellie Hill, etc.]
  - Landscape permeability (TNC)
  - Farmland Resources
    - · "Prime" and "Statewide Important" farmland soils
      - Active farmland
  - Scenic Resources
    - General
    - Special places
- Recreational Resources
  - Public-access lands
  - Trails (public hiking/biking trails, rail trail, ATV?)
  - Fishing access sites
  - [what else?]
- g. Cultural features
  - Historic sites (nature-based)
  - Other cultural landmarks (nature-based)

#### Protected lands

- Federal, state-owned, & municipal conservation lands
- Privately-owned conservation lands
  - o Land trusts and other conservation organizations
  - Conservation easements on privately-held lands
  - o Privately-held preserves