

Attending: Eric Marczak, Nelson Kent, Amy Lauterbach, Dave Nelson.

Eric opened the meeting at 7:38 PM.

Housekeeping

- Nelson made a motion to approve the May meeting minutes. Eric seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- No CAC meetings were held in June or July 2024.
- Amy will ask Russ to reset the Harassment Training link for Nelson and Eric.

Education and Outreach

- Dave attended a meeting in Schoharie of the Long Path North Hiking Club with about 15 other people, including Dave Bourque.
- Dave and Nelson have helped work on the Long Path extension trail into Altamont.
- Historic Altamont will meet on Wed., 8/21 at 6:45 at the Altamont Reformed Church.
- Dave announced an event at the wetland from 10 AM to Noon on September 10:
 - <https://ecosny.org/ecos-event/fall-walk-knox-wetland-preserve/>
- Dave is on the mailing lists of:
 - Environmental Clearinghouse of Schenectady (ECOS)
 - Long Path North Hiking Club
 - Pine Hollow Arboretum

Map Library (for Open Space Inventory)

- Wetland map information is changing, so we'll await those updates.
 - Eric will share a DEC newsletter about wetlands
- New regulations are coming out for protection of streams, vernal ponds and wetlands.
- We could work to identify vernal ponds in Knox.

Critical Environmental Areas (CEAs)

Wetlands Boardwalk Restoration Project

- Eric has fixed some of the cables and secured some planks that had been fastened on only one side.
- The beaver dam seems to have been compromised, as the water level has dropped by about 2 feet below its level when we repaired the boardwalk. Eric and Nelson will meet to take drone photos to investigate.
- Purple loosestrife is taking hold in the wetland. Amy, Eric and Dave will meet to remove some of the plants.
- We'll request a sign to say "Environmentally Sensitive Area" for the wetland.
- As of a few weeks ago, over 200 people have visited the wetland.

Other Discussion

- Hudsonia is presenting a session on vernal pools and wetlands sometime soon. Vernal pools will be protected in the new state wetlands law.
- Eric is co-chair of the Farmland Protection Planning Committee with Gary Kleppel of the Ag. Advisory Committee.
 - They are presenting a request for funding at the next town board meeting.
- The zoning ordinance needs a definition of C&D (construction and demolition) debris to add to dumping regulations.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

The next regularly scheduled CAC meeting is planned for 7:30 PM on Tuesday, September 17.