Meeting Minutes  
Grand Island Conservation Advisory Board  
January 26th, 2017  

**Attendance:** Sam Akinbami, Diane Evans, Alice Gerard, Jeff Green, and Ron Rezabek were present, constituting a quorum. Ed Standora and Suzanne Tomkins were excused. Ray Billica was excused. Guest: Robert Eddy  

Chair Diane Evans called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.  

**Recording Secretary:** Ron R. moved to adopt the November meeting minutes. Alice G. seconded the motion. The motion was carried.  

**Announcements/Communications:**  
Sharon Osgood will not be joining the CAB.  
On February 6th, the town board will be selecting two new CAB members.  

**Planning Board Discussion:** Ron R. and Diane E. met with Bob S., Jim Sharpe, Bob Westfall and Ray Billica to discuss the scope of what the planning board reviews and timelines of approval, including hearings. Members agreed that we should take turns attending planning board meetings. A sheet was passed around so members could sign up for specific dates. A packet will be available at Town Hall (in the Conservation Bd. mailbox) to be viewed ahead of the meeting. Diane E. suggested a possible change in meeting day to accommodate this schedule. Sam A. and Ron R. suggested getting an initial concept of a building project ahead of a final submission so the CAB can comment in a more timely manner.  

**Old Business**  

A Riverkeeper grant in the amount of $596,542 has been applied for. This grant would cover work on Spicer Creek within River Oaks.  

Trapping on town property: the available areas to trap on town owned property was reduced to two parcels from three.  

**SEQR Training:** Diane E., Alice G., Jeff G. and Sue T were in attendance. SEQR training was required for members of the planning board. Jeff G. suggested that members of other boards that attended have certificates on file with the town so there is a record of who has been briefed on the law. A future training is upcoming.  

**EAB Task Force:** Pat Marren of the DEC did a “windshield” survey on town roads for ash trees. He covered 93 miles of town streets and found 161 ash trees in right of ways. It was noted by Diane E. that there are DEC grants for urban forestry for a complete tree inventory by a certified arborist on town owned properties and right of ways.  

**Solar Law:** Final draft is proposed. CAB would like to extend an invitation to Kristin Savard to discuss solar development on G.I. in February or March.  

**WNY Land Conservancy:** gave a presentation to an economic development committee. CAB would like the town to consider using them for development of open spaces.
LRPC: Diane E. stated the LRPC would like to extend ecotourism development, ideas ongoing.

New Business

Goals of the CAB were looked over and commented on. Priorities from the CAB would be involvement in the planning process, watershed, creek, and coastal area restoration, and continuing community education.

A water quality handout from Jim Ehde of non-sewered areas on G.I. was distributed to be looked over for future education and comments.

Roundtable

Alice G. suggested looking into restoration projects in conjunction with the historical society regarding tree planting.

Jeff G. suggested having CAB members make a list of 3-5 items of most concern to each of them when there is a building project on G.I. Items from this list can be used to create a checklist for use by other boards when considering projects and referral to CAB for comment on the project before it is approved.

Adjournment: Alice G. moved to adjourn. Sam A. seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Next meeting: February 23rd, 2017