

Athens Conservation Advisory Council meeting minutes
January 18, 2024
Athens Village Office

Members present: Brunner, Lipsman, Moree, Reed

Members absent: Collinson, Little, Sprague

Chairman Lipsman convened the meeting at 6:39pm.

1. Welcome and introductions – deferred
2. Agenda review and approval – the agenda was approved by assent.
3. Approval of minutes of last meeting – the minutes of the meeting of November 16, 2023, were approved by assent. There was no meeting in December.
4. Drinking Water Source Protection project – placeholder item, pending DOH
5. Trees
 - a. Tree City USA – Dr. Lipsman reported he received form emails indicating the application had been approved by local and state forestry officials and was forwarded to the Arbor Day Foundation for final approval.
 - b. Grant opportunity – DEC Community Forest Management Plan Implementation – Ms. Reed and Dr. Lipsman discussed their on-going efforts to submit this grant. An arborist was possibly coming to meet with them tomorrow afternoon. If that happens, members will be notified and invited.
 - c. Tree Law update – this was put temporarily on hold while attention is on the grant application.
6. Administrative matters –
 - a. Annual Report – Mr. Brunner shared a copy of a draft Annual Report he compiled. He agreed to forward an e-version to the committee. Final review and approval for forwarding to the Village Board will occur at next month's CAC meeting.
 - b. member vacancy – open item
 - c. chair transition – open item
7. Member items – Ms. Moree mentioned that the Governor's budget has funds for tree planting; stormwater management considering all the flooding is germane to the CAC's work; as is the various inquiries she has seen as chair of the Planning Board to develop vacant parcels
8. Agenda for meeting of February 15 – possibly Zoom. The Village Board will consider a local law on January 24 that would allow committees such as the CAC to meet virtually at committee discretion. If this passes, it may be helpful for members who have not been able to attend in person.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joshua Lipsman, MD