

Minutes
Waterfront Advisory Committee
Zoom

October 4, 2021

Attending: Martin Overington, Christina Bohnsack, Donald Dubac, Doris Dubac, Kaare Christian, Tracy Martin, and Jo Hills.

Martin Overington called the meeting to order at 7:05

September Minutes — Donald Dubac made a motion to accept the minutes seconded by Overington, all in favor, minutes accepted.

OLD BUSINESS

Fund Raiser

Christina Bohnsack will order mugs with viewshed for our money maker, money to go to the water chestnut clearing.

Trees

Touch base with Anthony Cidras about when to buy and plant.

NEW BUSINESS

Ice House Landing

Bonfire party to burn the remaining brush cleared from the area on Wednesday, October 20.

Proposed 2022 Activities

Riversweep — Early May

Chestnut Clearing — Mid June

Water Chestnut Machine

Arthur Schiff approached Overington expressing interest in organizing fundraising for a machine. The machines are now produced in the USA and cost about \$10,000 and need to hook up with a pontoon boat. Because of the labor costs and liability for the town we discussed buying a machine privately and hiring a skilled dedicated waterfront person to maintain and run the machine to create clear channels of navigation so that we can access the river from our

parks and landings, and oversee shoreline stabilization, and projects as they arise. Overington will talk with Martin about what we need. Jo Hills has also expressed a long-time interest in fighting the chestnut and will contact Schiff.

Barge Mooring

Town Board wrote a letter asking for a public hearing.

Melora Kuhn and friend printed and posted posters about letter writing around town. Letter writing was encouraged by Bohnsack on Instagram, the Board and the Germantown Democratic Committee.

WAC wrote to Representatives Delgado and Barrett.

Official online information about the moorings never mentions that the moorings would be in Germantown. Instead they are called Catskill moorings, the coordinates are given for location, and they are described as being located near Conrail, Lehigh Cement and Holcim. Someone looking for the Germantown moorings would not be able to find information online.

The newly proposed site is 1853 feet from the Lasher Park dock. Barges would approach the moorings from the north and could cause shoreline slippage; instill fear and create danger to kayakers, small boaters, and swimmers; and affect our viewshed which is a key Germantown asset in our LWRP. WAC will contact Olana. Some of the letters written have mentioned how the view from Olana will be affected.

Although Scenic Hudson has acknowledged that the moorings would be distasteful it has also acknowledged that it does approve of shipping cement, etc. by barges.

Next Meeting

November 1, 2021 at 7 on Zoom.

Motion to end meeting made by Overington, seconded by Martin.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52.