

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

Eric opened the meeting at 7:36 PM.

Housekeeping

- Eric made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes. Nelson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- Russ will be sending an updated link to the members for online access to an annual harassment training program.

Education and Outreach

- We could plan a gathering of representatives from various resource agencies to help build our Natural Resources Inventory.
 - We can form alliances with other communities to do this work.
- The planning board has discussed asking the town board to procure services from a contractor to update the town's comprehensive plan.

Map Library (for Open Space Inventory)

- Betty and Amy met recently and sorted through the maps that she can update for us. She will provide some others that are missing from our inventory (e.g. forested areas).
- Some of the maps can be updated by visual inspections from local roadways (e.g. barns and outbuildings).
- Amy will ask the Frontier Sno Riders for a map of their local trails.
- Town Historian Lou Saddlemire may have a map of local cemeteries and burial grounds.
 - An archaeology report for the Switzkill Farm is available in the Berne Library.
 - Regional historian Don Rittner may also be a useful contact for cultural and historic resources.
- Amy will get pricing for large color printed maps from .pdf files.
- Since our goal is to compile and/or identify a repository of maps that can be consulted, there may be no need to ask the town board to buy a computer.
- Albany County uses GEBCO for mapping natural resources.
- A consulting firm could integrate map data (e.g. analyzing topographic data and groundcover data to help identify scenic resources).

Critical Environmental Areas (CEAs)

Wetlands Boardwalk Restoration Project

Other Discussion

- Highway Superintendent Matt Schanz said he purchased 300 tons of salt for use on town roads in 2023.
- Eric said there is an optimal ratio (80/20?) of salt to sand mix for treating roads that requires less salt while retaining effectiveness. Mixing in more sand reduces the effectiveness of the mix.
 - Amy will ask Matt what mix he uses.

At 9:03 PM, Nelson made a motion to adjourn, Eric seconded and all approved.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is planned for 7:30 PM on Tuesday, March 19.