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**Town of Shandaken Conservation Advisory Council
Minutes for Regular Monthly Meeting
April 25, 2022**

The first monthly meeting for the CAC was called to order by Bethia Waterman at
6:00 pm

Minutes:

Bethia Waterman self-appointed Chair for this meeting began as follows. A discussion was held to discuss upcoming projects for this committee. Bethia began the meeting by having each member tell a little about themselves, and what brought them to the Conservation Advisory Council. Supervisor Disclafani began by saying he would the council to bring us closer into the 21st century, finding ways to bring solar wind to the town, whether it be on town or state property, that will benefit everyone, such as solar panels on the town hall, charging stations, overall moving into a more greener way of life. Bethia Waterman who has a masters in environmental studies, has also worked for the department of environmental conservation for many years, she states she has a interest in climate issues, and the environment. She states she feels there's a lot we can do as a town, for our environment, she mentions the town signed up to be a climate smart community in 2016. The member introduction continues, as follows; Mary Jane Reiss majors in environmental geology and education, and is a retired Earth Science Teacher. She also has a master's in conflict resolution, she states people being informed, as individuals, and families, and the community is very important. Robert Cruickshank longtime resident, states in his 62 years here he has seen a lot of change. He states his family has been very involved in conservation, he agrees with Supervisor Disclafani, things such as solar, wind, charging stations that will benefit everyone would be great. Mary Herman longtime resident, states she's very infested in the environment and making it better, she states her current goal is to be a master composter, and thinks that is very important for our environment. Angela Molina

longtime resident states he doesn't have an extensive environmental background, but a longtime building and construction background. He states he's eager to help and come to some solutions for a greener community. Bruce Barry longtime resident states he has been environmentally conscious for some time, has solar panels on his residence, solar thermal for his home, he states he would like to see local tax breaks with solar and thermal installation, to become a greener community. Bruce is also a member of the Route 28 Corridor committee, and the Phoenicia Playhouse.

Catherine Del Tuffo longtime resident works in habitat preservation, she states being environmentally conscious, and is happy to be a part of this committee, to see as a community what we can do, it is very important to her, to save our planet.

Michael Cioffi longtime resident, Phoenicia Diner Owner, has a background in theater and construction. He states as a restaurant owner the amount of food waste, and waste in general in that industry is horrendous, and he's taking steps in his business to mitigate that. Bethia Waterman states the Town has passed the law, which is on the website, which constitutes this committee. She states the only thing missing is a mission, statement, but feels the law covers it. She states a climate smart community which we are; is an incentive based program where you choose from 100 actions, the actions that are applicable to you, as you move along with progression,

you gain points, as you accomplish these actions. She states there is another program called the Clean Energy Community Program. There is a state website as well as a County Website for Climate Smart Communities. She states as the Town of Shandaken Conservation Advisory Council, they will also serve as the Climate /Smart Task Force. Bethia states the hearing that took place in March had a representative from Ulster County Europa McGovern, who spoke about being a climate smart community, and the conservation advisory council. She states there has been a great deal of support from local organizations. Hedi May Emerich Environmental Planner, expressed interest in coming to a meeting, she works for the Ashokan watershed, and her expertise is flood mitigation. Kat Carroll is the Clean Energy Communities Coordinator, for the Hudson Valley Regional Council, she sent a letter to Bethia which she read aloud. Stating she's happy to support this program, and would like to attend a meeting in the future. Bethia states it would be best for everyone to have an understanding of what the clean energy community is, and how the committee will proceed with what actions are appropriate for everyone.

Supervisor Disclafani states with all of our resources and support, were in good hands. Supervisor Disclafani also states there are 15 climate smart communities in Ulster County. Bethia states she will ask Kat Carroll to attend the next meeting in May, and they will begin to discuss what the goals and objectives of being a climate smart committee will entail. Bethia also states another committee called the Local Champions Program, they work with a group called partners for climate action a NYC based program, sponsored by the new world org. They have a ten month

process in which they train a member of the CAC 10 hours a week, during which they introduce one to a lot of resident experts, grant writing, objectives the CAC is trying to achieve etc. She states the program is very interested in helping this committee, she states they work in Columbia Dutchess and Ulster County. Bethia states that the meeting will take place the third Monday of each month at 6:00. Bethia states for the next meeting, Secretary Olivia Amantia will send out an email of the law in a google document to all of the members ,and then can consider how to draft a mission statement. Bethia states the state website for climate smart communities would be a good resource for everyone to look over. She also states the NYS Climate Law, which Angel explains that it would be a great idea to review that law as a guideline for this group, and to fine tune it to what this group specifically is trying to achieve. Mary Jane states how important it is to get the word out on what this group is doing, and what's beneficial for everyone in the community.