

**NAME OF COMMITTEE:** Environmental Committee/Notes

**DATE:** June 17, 2009

**TIME:** 6:00 PM

**PLACE:** Library Conference Room, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
County Office Building

**LEGISLATORS PRESENT:** Chairman Brian Shapiro, Legislators Richard Parete and Hector Rodriguez

**LEGISLATORS ABSENT:** Deputy Chairman Laura Petit and Legislators Gary Bischoff, Dean Fabiano and Kevin Roberts

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Amanda LaValle, Coordinator, Department of Environment  
Victor J. Melville, LWV - Observer Corp.

**NOTES:**

**There was no quorum present at 6:15 PM.**

Chairman Shapiro circulated the following resolution: Requesting From The New York State Department Of Environmental Conservation Placement And Maintenance Of Portable Restrooms At Peekamoose Valley Camping Area In The Town Of Denning, New York, And Other Locations In Ulster County. Since there wasn't a quorum present, Chairman Shapiro will sponsor the resolution on behalf of the Committee for the July 8, 2009 Legislative Session. The purity of the drinking water supply is a major concern to all residents and visitors to the County. There was discussion about other locations throughout the County where portable restrooms have been removed. This information was incorporated into the resolution.

Discussion:

**Amanda LaValle - Department of Environment**

- She reminded everyone that the 2009 Stormwater Annual Report (March 10, 2008 - March 9, 2009) is available on-line. The report has been filed with DEC and the DOE has checked on all local municipalities for compliance. GIS sewer mapping is under consideration.
- The grant application is due and the DOE is reviewing the application, assurances, etc. for correctness. The DOE has had meetings with Dutchess County and Orange County regarding grant funding. Dutchess County's effort is being handled by Public Works and Orange County doesn't have a Department of Environment or energy policy in place. Their grants writer is handling their 3 million dollar application for funding.

- Discussion regarding Ulster Landing Park:
  - The Park has a number of maintenance issues which were observed during a tour with Brian Cunningham, Administrative Manager of Buildings & Grounds - the culverts need cleaning, there is dead fall on trails, etc.
  - Ms. LaValle has had a meeting with an Eagle Scout who proposed his project to work on the Park. His proposal includes labor, cost estimates, building a bench and the hours required, pull invasive species, remove dead fall on trails, etc. Ms. LaValle has signed as the Eagle Scout's Supervisor for the "Trails Maintenance Volunteer" which will lend a helping hand to the Scout on this project. Chairman Shapiro questioned the County's liability for the Scout to do this project. The Scout in signed on as a volunteer and will have working papers. Concern was expressed regarding the magnitude of the project and what the plan will be for next year. Ms. LaValle stated that there does need to be a cooperative effort for maintenance of the Park. Money has been appropriated in the County Budget. The run-off's and culverts need maintenance.

Public Works and Information Services have done a GPS mapping the trails and markers will be put in place to delineate County property from DEC property. The only access to DEC trails is from the upper parking lot at the Park. There is also \$2,500.00 available for materials for projects.

Chairman Shapiro suggested that a press release should be done regarding the cooperative effort to restore the Park to the "gem" that it is.

There was further discussion about future help with maintenance at the Park i.e. seasonal youth workers, AmeriCorps, etc. Since entrance into the Park isn't free to everyone, it is important that the Park and its trails be properly maintained.

Dr. Susan Kross, DVM will address the committee in July regarding a Soil & Water issue.

Legislator R.A. Parete will be on vacation in July.

Informal meeting ended at: 6:44 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen L. Binder, Deputy Clerk  
Ulster County Legislature