

Meeting Notes

Rensselaer County MS4 Communities Meeting
Schodack Island State Park
July 16, 2019
10:00 a.m.

The meeting started at 10:10. First item on the agenda was introductions, which were made due to different faces around the table.

Second item on the agenda was Local BMPS. Ms. Fuda was asked about the Amazon project. The project is going good, although there have been citizens complaints due to the fact that they don't like the project. The project has a 5 acre waiver due to the size of the project, which requires two inspections a week. Someone has been taking drone videos of the site and posting it on YouTube. There has been an injunction filed in court which is pending. The contractors are still working until they get told to stop. The completion of the project is November 2020. Other projects occurring in Schodack are the Stewart's Shop on Route 9 and Sunset Road and the Albany Hudson Electric Trail. There has been public opposition to the Stewart's Shop, as well as to Goulet Trucking, which has probably been chased away by the outcry.

There is a gas pipeline planned from Bethlehem to North Greenbush, an E37 pipeline that falls under the Article 7 process. The Article 7 process lets the applicant request waivers from local laws. No waiver was requested for site plan review. For the Construction SPDES permit, the area disturbed was reduced since the applicant proposed using existing limited access haul roads. Each affected community is required to sign off on the SWPPP. In Schodack, Dominion Gas had repaired its gas line and did a very good job as pertains to erosion and sediment control and implementing their SWPPP.

Schodack is getting a lot of solar projects, especially community solar. Another community was requiring decommissioning bonds. A discussion ensued on the difficulties that exist when a company goes bankrupt and the facility is sold or taken over by another company. Self-ownership of solar farms is best for the property owners. A side line discussion of eagles occurred when several eagles were spotted. There have been six eagle nests spotted between Castleton and Stuyvesant.

The discussion then devolved into a hornet's nest in Poestenkill, where there are developers who don't want to hire site inspectors and when they do, don't act on the weekly deficiencies list. The developers don't want to spend the money to follow the requirements. In Poestenkill, someone clear cut land and made a lot of furrows next to a DEC wetland. There is a FEMA flood plain at the site which requires delineation. The landowner got politicians involved. Mr. Barringer also stated that care needs to be taken when dealing with complaint issues. He had received a complaint about a property on a dead end road. He runs into a domestic battle which becomes confrontational. The owner blocked Mr. Barringer's pickup truck and he had no cell service for which to call for help. The other building inspectors stated that it was recently passed into law

that it is a Class D felony to mess with a building inspector. The discussion then went to a real hornet's nest over the road in Sand Lake. Member's of the public wanted the Town to remove the hornet's nest, but that would have required an exterminator, since the Town does not have anybody licensed to handle insecticides.

One community is now requiring the weekly report to be e-mailed to a Mail Box where the owner of the project is also a member. The discussion then went to joint driveways, which was discussed that can create mortgage difficulties. Also, the driveway must be able to support a 70,000 pound fire apparatus. CDRPC has a model agreement for joint driveway owners.

The new draft permit is expected soon. It was hoped that the newest draft will reflect that illicit discharges are found mainly through complaints.

The Town of East Greenbush was able to avoid a fine from the EPA, but spent \$20,000 on engineer's bills for compiling a 360 page response on EPA's comments.

The next meeting will be September 17, 2019 at 10 AM at the Brunswick Town Beach.

Attendees:

Sam Moreale	East Greenbush	Smoreale@eastgreenbush.org
Mike Wager	Sand Lake	Mwager@sand-lake.us
Dan Fiacco	East Greenbush	Dfiacco@eastgreenbush.org
Paul Barringer	Poestenkill	Pbarringer@poestenkillny.com
Linda von der Heide	Rensselaer County	Lvonderheide@rensko.com
Nick Petramale	East Greenbush	Npetramale@eastgreenbush.org
Rich Saville	Castleton	
Martin Daley	CDRPC	Mdaley@cdrpc.org
Scott Gallerie	East Greenbush	Sgallerie@eastgreenbush.org
Mark Hendricks	Rensselaer	Mark.hendricks@rensselaerny.org
Adam Yagelski	East Greenbush	Ayagelski@eastgreenbush.org
Mary Barrie	DEC R-4	Mary.barrie@dec.ny.gov
Philip Koziol	Laberge Group/Schodack	Pkoziol@Labergegroup.com
Nadine Fuda	Schodack	Nadine.fuda@schodack.org