

EAC Jan 2023 Meeting

Zoom Chat

From Kathy Fay To Everyone:

CACIWC - CT Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission has information on what towns have joint or separate agencies. www.caciwc.org

Eric Thomas DEEP Watersheds

17:19:32 From Kathy Fay To Everyone:

https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/eohap/haz_sites/regional_state/art_turf/other_concerns.pdf Dennis Reardon Menunkatuc Audobon

From Gaboury Benoit to Everyone 05:24 PM

Let's Stop Eye-L !

From Kathy Fay to Everyone 05:31 PM

Prof. Steve Brady expressed interest in assessing microplastic including crumb rubber in local waterbodies.

bradys4@southernct.edu

From gabriela De La Tierra to Everyone 05:32 PM

I was told the reason we didn't have a separate commission was bc of size - but that made no sense

From gabriela De La Tierra to Everyone 05:41 PM

I thought that was The Mill River

From Kathy Fay to Everyone 05:42 PM

yes Wilbur Cross is on the Mill and Gabe is part of the Mill River Watershed group

From gabriela De La Tierra to Everyone 05:43 PM

I agree w Anstress that there should be a commission to revitalize we NEED wetlands

From Kathy Fay to Everyone 05:45 PM

there is also a West River Watershed group and many "water people" are engaged there. But there is typically a disconnect between these groups and the City... .

From Gaboury Benoit to Everyone 05:47 PM

Of course Wilbur Cross is tidal. Theoretically fresh tidal, but my measurements show it is brackish. Does it fall under inland wetlands? Not sure of the law here.

Sorry. Earlier I thought people were talking about Hillhouse, so West R.

From Kathy Fay to Everyone 05:53 PM

As Gabe knows, the Hillhouse synthetic turf was installed at Bowen Field some years ago. So there is an opportunity to study what happens there with microplastics and leaching ...

City Plan Commissioners asked us if there were such studies of Bowen Field/Beaver Ponds Park (water and plant life) and we couldn't provide any.

From Gaboury Benoit to Everyone 05:53 PM

And the bog there is among the largest, maybe the largest inland wetland in the city.

From Gretl Gallicchio to Everyone 06:00 PM

Yes, when I say "economics" often drives policy, I really mean that the financial stakeholders often drive the discussion for their own benefit.

From Lynne Bonnett to Everyone 06:14 PM

The Citizen Advisory Council met once a year ago with no minutes or recording taken; they met once one day before the environmental assessment was going to be submitted to the Federal Aviation Agency a few weeks ago. Despite its name it has had almost no advisory role or access to information generated by the consultants in the environmental assessment process. In my opinion the PAC was a sham process.

From gabriela De La Tierra to Everyone 06:15 PM

I don't think they have really followed guidelines on how those meetings were run Lynne - it's really tragic

From Anstress Farwell to Everyone 06:15 PM

Or, ask the BOA to review testimony on how our inland wetland law compare to best practices in similar small cities?

From gabriela De La Tierra to Everyone 06:18 PM

What about a subcommittee? Is that reasonable

From Aaron Goode to Everyone 06:20 PM

Agree that there should be stronger language about protecting and revitalizing wetlands in the new/updated Plan of Conservation and Development, as part of larger resiliency goals and agenda

From gabriela De La Tierra to Everyone 06:20 PM

That's why I was thinking a sub committee

From Marjorie Shansky to Everyone 06:20 PM

Starting this year Commissioner education is mandatory - by statute

From Kathy Fay to Everyone 06:23 PM

That is great to know, thank you Markor

From DENNIS SERFILIPPI to Everyone 06:23 PM

Does anyone know what is happening with environmental cleanup at the old dry cleaners on Alden Ave?

From Aaron Goode to Everyone 06:24 PM

Related to discussion about education and training, there should be stronger provisions in the city charter for ethics disclosure and mandatory participation in ethics & FOIA training for all board and commission members.

From Gretl Gallicchio to Everyone 06:24 PM

@ Aaron: YES!

From Xóchitl García to Everyone 06:24 PM

I agree

From Anstress Farwell to Everyone 06:25 PM

Yes to Aaron's suggestion

From gabriela De La Tierra to Everyone 06:27 PM

There has been a lot of shenanigans

We need transparency

Don't minutes have to be public by law

From DENNIS SERFILIPPI to Everyone 06:28 PM

Perhaps you can file a FOIA to obtain the minutes

From Gaboury Benoit to Everyone 06:28 PM

People in the Hill have very few parks.

From Anstress Farwell to Everyone 06:31 PM

Very true, Hill North has no major park, only a few scattered community gardens. Hill South has one major park (Kimberly Field) which has been neglected for years, but it is getting some TLC now.

From Aaron Goode to Everyone 06:32 PM

We were able to successfully raise the issue of English Station with PURA at two separate hearings recently.

From Laura Cahn to Everyone 06:33 PM

Thank you, Aaron.

From Anstress Farwell to Everyone 06:34 PM

Could we hear from Aaron on the PURA hearings?

From Aaron Goode to Everyone 06:35 PM

In case anyone is interested, there are some environmental/brownfield remediation grants on the CSEP agenda this Thursday <https://www.newhavenindependent.org/legal-notice/city-services-and-environmental-policy-committee-agenda-jan-5>

From Laura Cahn to Everyone 06:42 PM

Pesticides:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/14/climate/native-plants-lawns-homeowners.html>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/02/opinion/letters/lawns-wildlife-pesticides.html>

<https://www.pollinator-pathway.org/post/join-us-december-1st-6-30pm-on-zoom>

Trees store more carbon than thought:

<https://phys.org/news/2022-12-uk-woodlands-carbon-previously.html>

From gabriela De La Tierra to Everyone 06:44 PM

Tweed admitted to spraying Round Up -

Equally harmful

Doctor looked at it

From Gretl Gallicchio to Everyone 06:45 PM

Bravo to the EAC! Thank you all for your time and work!