

10 RABBIT TRAIL ROAD, POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12603
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January 18, 2006

Jon J. Wagner, Supervisor
Gary E. Beck, Councilperson
Dale Borchert, Councilperson
Stephen O'Hare, Councilperson
Joseph J. Luna, Councilperson

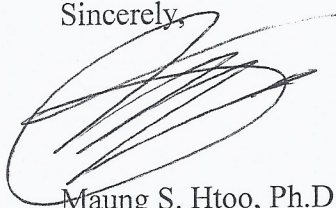
Attached are 2005 accomplishments and 2006 plans for the Town of LaGrange Conservation Advisory Council. We volunteered 256 hours on monthly CAC meetings and approx. 400 hours on a variety of Environmental and Conservation Related Activities in 2005.

Our major accomplishment in 2005 was the completion of the first phase to restore approx. 80 feet of the eroded bank of the Wappinger Creek. It was initiated in February, 2004 and completed in September, 2005 under the direction of CAC member, Rolf Nijhuis. Volunteers from Dutchess County Environmental Management Council, Trout Unlimited, Boy Scout Troop 50 from La Grange and several CAC members were involved in this project. The second and final phase is planned for completion in 2006.

Our participation at the LaGrange Community Day and distribution of Stormwater Discharge Education brochures was one of the six measurable requirements (Public Education) in implementation of the Town of LaGrange Stormwater Management Program.

We received two major awards in 2005 (one by the Dutchess County Planning Federation and the other by the New York State Association of Conservation Commissions) for our contributions in the Development and Implementation of the Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail in the Town of LaGrange.

Sincerely,



Maung S. Htoo, Ph.D., FAIC
Chairperson

Town of LaGrange Conservation Advisory Council

cc: Town of LaGrange Conservation Advisory Council Members

Jaochim G. Ansonage, Director of Planning and Zoning

John S. Brewster, Planning Board Chairman

Peter D. Huff, Parks and Recreation Director

Michael Kelly, Highway Superintendent

Tracy Johnson, Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman

Kathleen A. Williams, Town Clerk

**CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL(CAC)
TOWN OF LAGRANGE**

2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

I. CAC MEMBERSHIP

The town board interviewed and appointed both candidates recommended by CAC chairman. They are Mary Gomez (replacing Dianne Olsen) and Michael G. Maegerle (replacing Tim Vilinskis).

II. MONTHLY CAC REVIEWS OF PLANNING BOARD APPLICATIONS

Completed review of all major planning board applications submitted to us prior to our monthly meetings. The Dutchess County GIS "Connection" software program has been installed in CAC computer for improving the efficiency of CAC review process.

III. CAC MEMBER CONTINUING EDUCATION ON SOFTWARE USE

Tutorial classes have been held by Rolf Nijhuis on GIS "Connection" software for CAC members.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSERVATION RELATED MEETINGS

CAC members attended many environmental and conservation related meetings in addition to classes and courses (see appendix B).

V. PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION ON STORM WATER DISCHARGE

Continued our active role in the dissemination of educational materials in an outreach effort to inform the community of the impacts of polluted stormwater and non-stormwater runoff discharges on water quality.

VI. PARTICIPATION AT LAGRANGE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Operated a CAC booth and handed out information brochures at the annual LaGrange Community Day on June 11, 2005. A new magnetic fishing game introduced this year was very popular with the kids and their parents (see appendix C).

VII. WAPPINGER CREEK BANK RESTORATION

The first phase to restore approx. 80 feet of the eroded bank of the Wappinger Creek to protect the Town of LaGrange Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail has been completed. It was a major project planned and executed by CAC member Rolf Nijhuis over a one year period. Many volunteers and organizations including Dutchess County Environmental Management Council, Trouts Unlimited, LaGrange Highway Department, Boy Scout Troop 50 from LaGrange and several CAC members participated. Phase 2 (final) will be completed in 2006 (see appendix D).

VIII. TOWN OF LAGRANGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

CAC member, Rolf Nijhuis, represented CAC in the Comprehensive Plan Committee meetings chaired by Councilperson, Joe Luna. We also reviewed and made comments on the plan as required.

IX. FISHKILL CREEK INTERMUNICIPAL COUNCIL

CAC member, Linda McPhee, represented CAC in the Fishkill Creek Intermunicipal Council.

X. GEOGRAPHIC INVENTORY OF LAGRANGE NATURAL LAND RESOURCES

Initiated this new project, under the leadership of CAC member, Mary Gomez. Such an inventory will be a useful tool for Town of LaGrange CAC. The digital data received from Chazen Company (both GIS and plots used in the LaGrange Comprehensive Plan) has been installed in the CAC computer using Arc Explorer 2.

XI. AWARDS AND PUBLICITY

1. Received the Dutchess County Planning Federation Award on January 25, 2005 for our contributions in the Development and Implementation of Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail. (This was publicized in the February 17, 2005 issue on The Voice Ledger).
2. Received the 2005 Action Award from the New York State Association of Conservation Commissions for the Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail on October 9, 2005 at the Association Annual Meeting.. (This was publicized in the October 27, 2005 issue of The Voice Ledger).
3. Maung Htoo, on behalf of LaGrange CAC, presented both of these prestigious awards to the town for permanent display at the town hall at the town board meeting on October 12, 2005.
- 4 At this meeting, Supervisor George Wade presented CAC member, Rolf Nijhuis, with the Town of LaGrange Appreciation Award for his outstanding volunteer work as a member of LaGrange CAC for more than a decade.
5. Poughkeepsie Journal published an article on Rolf Nijhuis for his contributions as a LaGrange CAC member to the Wappinger Creek Greenway Trail in the November 14, 2005 issue. (The project would not have been completed without Rolf's persistence and leadership).
6. Maung Htoo received a Certificate of Appreciation for his leadership of the Conservation Advisory Council from the Town of LaGrange at the town board meeting on December 28, 2005. (This was publicized in the Poughkeepsie Journal on January 3, 2006).

**CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC)
TOWN OF LAGRANGE**

2006 PLANS

I. MONTHLY CAC REVIEWS OF PLANNING BOARD APPLICATIONS

Continue to improve the efficiency of the CAC review process by acquiring up-to-date information and assuring that all members receive the necessary training on a timely basis.

II. PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION ON STORM WATER DISCHARGE

Continue an ongoing public education and outreach program on Storm Water Discharge.

III. PARTICIPATION AT LAGRANGE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Continue participation at the LaGrange Community Day.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSERVATION RELATED MEETINGS

Continue attendance at pertinent environmental and conservation related meetings.

V. WAPPINGER CREEK BANK RESTORATION

Assure Phase 2 and final completion of Wappinger Creek bank restoration in 2006 as planned.

VI. GEOGRAPHIC INVENTORY OF LAGRANGE NATURAL LAND RESOURCES

Continue to refine the process and acquire the necessary information.

VII. TOWN OF LAGRANGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

Continue CAC participation in the Comprehensive Plan Committee meetings.

VIII. WALKING TRAILS

Continue to explore opportunities and implementation of recreational walking trails.

IX. FISHKILL CREEK INTERMUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Continue CAC representation.

X. WAPPINGER CREEK WATERSHED INTERMUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Resume CAC representation.

XI. OTHER

Initiate new CAC projects as required.

APPENDIX A

**CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC) MEMBERS
TOWN OF LAGRANGE (2005)**

- 1. Maung Htoo (Chairperson)**
- 2. Keith Christensen**
- 3. Mary Gomez**
- 4. Edwin Joba**
- 5. Robert Kinkade**
- 6. Michael Maegerle**
- 7. Linda McPhee**
- 8. Rolf Nijhuis**
- 9. Nancy Swanson**

APPENDIX B

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSERVATION RELATED MEETINGS ATTENDED BY CAC MEMBERS IN 2005

* number of meetings attended shown in brackets

- Meetings at Farm & Home Center, Millbrook, NY sponsored by the Dutchess County Environmental Management Council
 - Nancy Swanson (8),* Rolf Nijhuis (7), Maung Htoo (4), Robert Kinkade (3), Ed Joba (1)
 - Mary Gomez (1)
- LaGrange Planning Board Meetings
 - Nancy Swanson (3), Mary Gomez (1)
- LaGrange Town Board Meetings
 - Nancy Swanson (3), Maung Htoo (2), Rolf Nijhuis (1), Linda McPhee (1)
- LaGrange Comprehensive Plan Committee Meetings
 - Rolf Nijhuis (3), Nancy Swanson (1)
- Wappinger Creek Watershed Intermunicipal Council Meetings
 - Nancy Swanson (1)
- Fishkill Creeek Intermunicipal Council Meetings
 - Linda McPhee (3)
- Wappinger Creek Bank Restoration Meetings , Site Visits and Preparation
 - Rolf Nijhuis (12), Mary Gomez (5), Nancy Swanson (1)
- GIS Special Interest Group Meetings sponsored by Dutchess County Environmental Management Council
 - Rolf Nijhuis (4)
- CAC Member Continuing Education on GIS "Connection" Software Use- taught by Rolf Nijhuis
 - Nancy Swanson (10/19/05), Robert Kinkade (11/17/05)
- Dutchess County Planning Board Federation Award Function- 1 /27/05
 - Nancy Swanson
- Round Table Discussion of Dutchess County Conservation Advisory Councils- 2/23/05
 - Maung Htoo, Mary Gomez, Nancy Swanson
- Re- Leaf Meeting- 3/22/05
 - Linda McPhee
- Stormwater Conference at Locust Grove- 4/15/05
 - Nancy Swanson
- Dutchess County Planning Federation Course on Planning Boards- 5/3/2005
 - Nancy Swanson
- LaGrange Community Day- 6/11/05
 - Mary Gomez, Linda Mc Phee, Maung Htoo, Ed Joba, Keith Christensen
- A Wetlands Primer by Environmental Management Council Watershed Co-ordinator- 6/30/05
 - Nancy Swanson
- Biodiversity Workshop sponsored by Cornell University at Acra, NY-7/20/05
 - Maung Htoo
- Wappingers Creek Restoration Day - 8/6/05
 - Rolf Nijhuis, Mary Gomez, Ed Joba, Maung Htoo

- Hudsonia Presentation at Cunneen-Hackett Art Center, Poughkeepsie, NY- 9/9/05
Maung Htoo
- 2005 Conference on the Environment sponsored by New York State Association of Conservation Commissions- Hamilton, NY- 10/9-10/11/05
Maung Htoo
- How To Read and Understand a Site Plan- sponsored by Dutchess County Planning Federation-10/20/05
Maung Htoo, Linda McPhee, Nancy Swanson
- Important Areas Mapping- sponsored by Dutchess County Planning Federation-10/26/05
Maung Htoo, Ed Joba, Robert Kinkade, Rolf Nijhuis, Nancy Swanson
- Groundwater 2005- A one-day working conference at Vassar College addressing groundwater impacts in Dutchess County- 10/29/05
Michael Maegerle (speaker), Robert Kinkade, Rolf Nijhuis, Nancy Swanson

APPENDIX C

CAC Participation in La Grange Community Day, June 11, 2005



Adult participants receiving CAC brochures on the environment



CAC members, Mary Gomez, Maung Htoo, and Linda McPhee in front of CAC booth.



Young participants enjoying the magnetic fishing game in front of the CAC booth.

APPENDIX D

Wappinger Creek Bank Restoration Jan - Sept 2005



BEFORE: Severe bank erosion



Step 1: LaGrange Highway Dept shapes bank



Step 2: Boy Scouts rake and seed bank



Step 3: Stabilizing mats placed over grass seed



Step 4: Bank with mats near completion



AFTER: Phase 1 complete (grass only)