

8 Woodward Rd
Brooklyn, CT 06234
February 2, 2024

To: Brooklyn Conservation Commission: Richard Calarco, Diane Wimmer, Dana Heilemann,
Carolyn Teed-Ives, Victoria Fradette, William Green

From: Jackie Igliazzi

I am a resident of Brooklyn who is deeply concerned about the short-sited development decisions that are being approved, even though they may have detrimental long-term impacts on our environment.

As an advisory-only committee, I have noticed that the Conservation Commission's influence is often minimal. Though the Planning & Zoning Commission is required to consult the *Plan of Conservation* prior to making their decisions, I have observed that this is mostly cursory and relies on P&Z's subjective interpretation at the time.

However, there may be ways for the Conservation Commission to strengthen its influence and become more pro-active.

As a first step, I respectfully suggest that a member of the Conservation Commission (CC) attend all Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) meetings, in person or via zoom, for the following reasons:

1. **To Attain Visibility** – It will be noticed that the CC is paying attention to P&Z decisions.
2. **To Observe Firsthand** – To hear and understand current and future development requests, zone change proposals, etc. that may have an impact on the environment.
3. **To Provide Timely CC Guidance** - To be available to answer conservation questions raised by P&Z during their meetings or to bring questions back to the CC for follow up. (This would be on a smaller scale, but similar to, how Jana Robison provided information and guidance during P&Z meetings.)
4. **To Report Back to CC** - To document detailed notes during P&Z of any project, development issue, zone change, etc. that may have an impact on conservation Issues. A form could be developed to make this easier and more consistent. (This would remove CC's reliance on minimally informative P&Z minutes.)
5. **To Create a Knowledge Base** – CC notes taken during P&Z meetings and CC responses could be retained electronically in a readily available, searchable reference volume.

It is with our mutual interests in mind that I make these suggestions. And as previously offered, I would be willing to help the Conservation Commission in their endeavors.

Sincerely,

Jackie Igliazzi

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