

Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council REVISED 10/12/11
Minutes –September 14, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Jen Cavanaugh, Acting Chair.

Members present: Jen Cavanaugh, Norene Coller, and Mike Digiacomio.

Members of the public present: None.

Public Comment: Mike described major road flooding in nearby towns. He asked how the CAC could help a large number of town residents. He suggested finding ways, in the light of recent flooding, to “reengineer” streams to prevent washing out of roads. Jen stated that hiring engineers to accomplish this would be costly. She suggested working with the Cornell Local Roads group to find reasonable roadway surface based on usage and economics. The group discussed finances for 2012 and agreed to ask for a budget of \$1000.

Minutes: No vote was taken since there was no quorum.

Communications: There were no requests from the Planning Board or ZBA.

Finances:	Source	Amount	Spent	Remaining
	McDermott Trust	\$1000	\$836.75	\$ 164.25
	Town of Clinton	\$1350	\$196.59	\$1153.41

Water, Watersheds and Wetlands: Jen serves on a subcommittee of the Dutchess County Watershed Coalition. Many organizations participate. Carolyn Klocker, who is Cornell staff, has received a grant to create a public service announcement film which can be viewed on websites and cable TV channels about water quality issues. The goals as basic education about the water cycle, education aimed at homeowners and flood related issues. Mike will transport the documentary film maker. Jen noted that the Dutchess County Watershed Coordination Committee has quarterly forums and will have a roundtable session about the use of GIS.

Biodiversity Mapping: No information has been heard from Hudsonia about the mapping project. Norene will check with Hudsonia staff, Chris Graham.

Energy and Climate Smart Pledge: Mike discussed the possibility of purchasing inexpensive meters to loan to Clinton homeowners to determine how much energy appliances are using. Jen noted that there was information on the Central Hudson website which would help homeowners with this process. She will look into the information. Bill had suggested purchasing meters for the library to loan out. This question should be forwarded to librarian, Terry Sennett.

Old and New Business: Mike suggested that the CAC could use the Clinton Watch funds (\$3740.46) for developing a connection between the kiosk and the beginning of the trail. The possibility of building benches was discussed, particularly made of local woods which would be too heavy to be easily moved. Mike suggested planting trees near the newly moved and restored buildings to demonstrate how vegetation may be used to cool and protect the structures for energy conservation. He suggested planting an oak tree this fall to replace the maple next to the south driveway which has been killed by salt. He stated that oak trees were more resistant to the affects of salt. Other suggestions were to plant native trees and enhance the wildflower garden.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Norene Coller

Norene Coller, Secretary

Next CAC meeting: October 12, 2011 at 7 PM.