

Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council

Minutes – November 11, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Norene Collier, Chair.

Members present: Norene Collier, Barbara Mansell and Bill Relyea.

Members of the public present: David Atcher and Dick Collier.

Public Comment: Members discussed the town's position on solar power. The new Solar Law was approved by the Town Board. It was uncertain whether whether Clinton was taking part in the northern Dutchess solar coalition.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of October 7, 2015, was made by Barbara Mansell and seconded by Bill Relyea. All members voted in favor.

Communications: No new information.

Finances:	Source	Amount	Spent	Remaining
	Town of Clinton	\$975.00	\$797.32	\$177.68

Funds spent for the plants and signs for the garden were \$455.08

Water, Watersheds and Wetlands: Norene stated that Skip Backus of the Omega Institute had made an excellent presentation to the Clinton Historical Society which included a description of their water treatment plant. The CAC might work with Omega to plan tours of the facility that could include outreach to the Long Pond landowners.

Biodiversity: On Saturday, October 17, Gretchen Stevens and Chris Graham of Hudsonia made presentations at the Omega Institute about connectivity between humans and wildlife habitat. Laura Heady of the NYS DEC also joined the presentation. About 30 members of the public attended. Members felt that the presentation was well received by the public. Comments were made that many homes in Clinton are set back from the road and may impact habitat of wildlife.

Barbara suggested that the CAC should look at maps to see how habitat was affected by the siting of homes. Members discussed how they could best help the town to use the resources provided by the Hudsonia maps and documents. The group discussed the possibility of becoming a Conservation Advisory Board (CAB) which would require that the group review each application which came before the Planning Board. More information will be sought about this matter and more discussion will follow.

Education and Outreach: No new folders have been distributed.

Nature Trail Subcommittee: The Clinton Nature Trail was mowed by the highway department. Thanks to Theron Tompkins and his staff. Barbara noted that we might consider improved signage for marking the trails. Bill volunteered to reletter the faded sign at the entrance.

Green Energy and Climate Change: No new information.

Open Space Plan: There is hope that the Greenway grant funds assigned to the Zoning Revision Committee will assist with the implementation of the goals of the Open Space Plan.

Zoning Revision: New zoning for tree protection and biodiversity were discussed.

Proposed Powerlines: Dick noted that New York State has not altered its view on the need for additional powerlines to New York City.

Old and New Business: No new information.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Norene Coller

Norene Coller, Chair

Next CAC meeting: December 9, 2015 at 7 PM