

Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council

Minutes – September 9, 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: Greg Quinn and Dick Collier

Public Comment: Barbara described the public hearing held on September 8 before the Town Board meeting regarding a Community Block Grant applied for by the Recreation Commission to build a new basketball court and accessible public bathrooms at Fran Mark Park on Clinton Hollow Road.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of July 8, 2015, was made by Bill Relyea and seconded by Barbara Mansell. All members voted in favor.

Communications. The Clinton Planning Board has voted to grant a steep slope permit for the Kliros dam removal in Hibernia for the access road for large equipment reach the Wappinger Creek. The DEC has granted additional approval for that activity. No members had information about the activity on that site.

Greg Quinn stated that no response had been received about his concept to developing a website to inform the public about farms in Clinton.

The CAC has suggested that the CAC combine with the committee to implement the Farmland Protection Law. Greg will inquire with former members about their interest.

Finances:	Source	Amount	Spent	Remaining
	Town of Clinton	\$975.00	\$342.24	\$632.76

Water, Watersheds and Wetlands: No new information.

Biodiversity: October 17 is the date for a workshop presented by Hudsonia for town residents at the Omega Institute. Omega has agreed to host 50 people for the workshop and lunch. The Clinton Town Clerk, Carol Mackin, as agreed to place a file on the town website directing members of the public to the Omega website where individuals may register for the workshop. Norene is working with Hudsonia to forward a description of the workshop to Laura Weiland of Omega. The topic proposed is Wildlife Corridors. It is hoped that these arrangements proceed quickly to allow for registration.

Education and Outreach: Barbara has prepared 30 new folders for newcomers to the town. The folders have been distributed to the offices of the Town Clerk and Assessor and to the Clinton Community Library. Barbara has given two folders to new residents on Allen Road.

Nature Trail Subcommittee: Norene reported that a memorial event will be held by the book club of former supervisor, Fran Monahan, on Saturday, September 19th. Norene has completed the labeling of the trees and requested that the highway department deposit gravel on the path. Highway supervisor, Theron Tompkins has agreed. The trail has been mowed and is in good condition.

Greg Quinn stated that two of the trees planted last spring will be replaced next spring. The group discussed the garden space between the two old buildings which has been weeded and will be planted with plants given to the town by The Cary Institute when it dismantled its gardens.

Norene and Dick have been weeding and will prepare the garden and transplant the donated plants, helped by the highway department. In addition, bulbs will be planted for a spring garden.

Barbara would like to plan a walk next year for the Waterman Bird Club to visit the Nature Trail and trails at Fran Mark Park.

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: A public hearing was held on September 8 for the Solar (SES) and Wind Energy (WES) law. Some concerns were: Limiting the maximum generated energy to 110% of a home's average yearly energy use; the setback of solar panels from the sides and top of the roof in order to allow access by the fire department would limit the number of panels that could be installed; if a ground mounted SES application requests installation in front of the home that a public hearing would be required to allow neighbors to express concerns.

Proposed Powerlines – Environmental Subcommittee: Greg summarized the events of the summer: There was a meeting in June in Albany at which the state postponed the presentation of Gideon Eschel of Bard College. Since then, the issue has been quiet. No action has been taken.

Old and New Business: No new information.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Norene Coller

Norene Coller, Chair

Next CAC meeting: October 7, 2015 at 7 PM