

**Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Location: Top floor of Masonic Hall at the Town Complex,**  
**1215 Centre Road, Rhinebeck, NY**  
**Minutes – September 11, 2024 – 5:30pm**

CAC members present: Barbara Mansell, Jenn Brown, Lynn Morrell, Michael Hurd, Margaret Pierpont, Deborah Valchar, Joe Phalen (until 6pm)

Town Board Liaison: Katherine Mustello

**Moment of Silence for 9/11 anniversary**

**Review and Approve Minutes** – Margaret moves, Michael seconds, all in favor

<b>CAC A8090.4</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Remaining</b>
2024 Budget	\$2,000	\$1,449.18	\$550.82
2025 Budget Requested	\$2,500	-	-

CSC Task Force Banner	Community Events (CCD)	Minuteman Red Hook	\$ (72.50)
Two Pop Up Tents	Community Events (CCD)	Town Amazon Account	\$ (195.98)
Bookmarks	Community Events (CCD)	Minuteman Red Hook	\$ (69.14)

- Barbara has sent in our request for the 2025 budget to the town board

**Clinton Community Day**

- Richard Marshall volunteered at the CSC booth and tracked attendance and survey results. See attached addendum below.
- Items passersby asked about/requested
  - Pollinator map for Clinton - could we create a poster and/or put on website?
  - Japanese stilt grass - what to do about it?
  - People liked the wetland map a lot and finding their home site on it
  - We had 34 people participate in the raffle for the native plant and Diane from the library won.
- Next year's Community Day might be in June 7th. TBD.
  - Other considerations: Library plant sale and Clinton rec committee yard sale are also around the same time - would we table at all 3?

**Climate Smart Community Task Force**

- We have received bronze certification! 28 are getting bronze and 3 are getting silver in Q3. Joe has been heading up the effort for 3 years.
- Jenn: add to website once town press release is ready
- Will plan an event at the town hall when the plaque comes in

**CAC Room**

- Barbara would like to set up a time to organize the storage room.

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**CAC Chair Responsibilities - Barbara**

- Reviewing planning board requests - Michael
- Minutes - Jenn
- Website maintenance - Jenn
- Welcome folders - Deborah (with Jenn's support on website)
  - Deborah will get list of new homeowners from assessors office
  - Barbara and Deborah will coordinate on new printed folders
- Other responsibilities:
  - Maintaining access to Laserfiche

**Planning Board Applications**

- Review of Devereaux Parcel Subdivision, 18 Hollow Road - submitted to planning board

**Education Outreach**

- DEC September Tip shared via MailChimp - Barbara
- Rec Committee – Flea Market – Memorial Day weekend next year?
- “Wildlife” informational sheets - Margaret - still working on them
- Volunteer to provide a monthly newsletter to the town? - tabled

**CAC/CSC Website - Jenn**

- Spongy Moth Updated
- Spotted Lanternfly Information Posted
- Last 30 days of website activity: 98 visitors; 85 unique visitors; 175 page views; 81 Home; 13 Parks & Trails; 9 CSC Task Force; 9 Home & Yard; 8 Town of Clinton Comprehensive Plan

**Clinton Nature Trail – Barbara Chair**

- Bird Walk – September 14, 2024 – via Library
- New nest boxes are going to be installed end of next month

**Upcoming Events:**

**Saturday, September 14, 2024 – Bird Walk at the Clinton Nature Trail at 9:30am**

**Next CAC Meeting: October 9, 2024 @ 5:30pm**

**2024 Meetings: November 13; December 11.**

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**To: Joe Phelan, Jack Persely, Jean McAvoy, Barbara Mansell, Judy Malstrom, Lynne Morrell**

**From: Richard Marshall**

**Re: REPORT regarding Climate Smart Community Task Force<sup>1</sup> Booth at Town of Clinton Community Day, August 31, 2024 (Hamlet of Clinton Corners, Salt Point Turnpike, Town of Clinton)**

**Date: September 9, 2024**

**Task Force Members Attending the Booth:**

Joe Phelan, Jack Persely, Richard Marshall

**Booth Presentation:**

1. Two large posters indicating Actions completed for Bronze Certification
2. Summary of Natural Resources Inventory
3. Road-Stream Crossing Inventory & Assessment Plan, produced by Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County
4. Municipal green-house gas emissions inventory
5. Composting Survey regarding interest in creating a Town-sponsored composting facility
6. Folders, bookmarks with QR code
7. Task Force banner
8. Synergy with: adjacent CAC booth and Zero-Waste Booth

**Head Count:**

69 members of the public stopped at the booth to make enquires and/or listen to presentations by attending Task Force members.

26 members of the public filled out the Composting Survey.

**Comments and Questions from Members of the Public:**

1. Many people enquired what Bronze Certification would achieve for the Town.
2. More than one person inquired when the Town would hear whether its application for Bronze had been accepted.
3. One person mentioned that Dutchess County (unlike other counties in NYS), does not contribute to the operating budget of its local Cornell Cooperative Extension but, instead, contributes only to the funding of specific projects. (Context: discussion regarding how CCE Dutchess County assisted

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<sup>1</sup> The CSC Task Force is a committee within the Town of Clinton's Conservation Advisory Council. Joe Phelan and Barbara Mansell are, respectively, the Chairs for the Task Force and the CAC.

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the Town in its application for Bronze and was responsible, on the Town's behalf, for completion of certain Actions).

4. One person agreed with local, environmental efforts, but was skeptical about NYS-wide environmental programs, particularly State funding. Cited recent objections by Comptroller DiNapoli.
5. Two individuals expressed interest in volunteering.
6. One person was concerned about the environmental impact of the proposed Sixth Sense development (straddling Clinton and Hyde Park).
7. One person expressed interest in the NRI maps.
8. One person spoke extensively about Poughkeepsie's composting program (now terminated).
9. One person asked how points were assigned to the various Actions.
10. One person mentioned the need to donate used items for reuse to keep such items out of landfills.

**Results from Composting Survey: filled out by 26 members of the public**

<i>Are you a Clinton resident?</i>	14 yes	12 no
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<i>Do you garden?</i>	20 yes	6 no
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<i>Interested in compost material?</i>	20 yes	6 no
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<i>Interested in Town of Clinton Composting?</i>	20 yes	6 no
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*Why or why not?*

- 2: good for the environment
- 3: good for soil and gardens
- 1: right thing to do
- 1: love composting
- 1: great way to dispose of food scraps, cuttings, etc.
- 1: reduces food waste
- 3: have my own composting
- 1: good for people who don't have space
- 1: easy to dump in the woods
- 1: closer to home