

Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council (CAC)

clintoncac.com

**Meeting Location: Top floor of Masonic Hall at the Town Complex,
1215 Centre Road, Rhinebeck, NY
Minutes – February 12, 2025 – 5:15pm**

CAC members present: Michael Hurd, Barbara Mansell, Lynne Morrell, Joe Phelan, Margaret Pierpont

Town Board liaison: Katherine Mustello

Review and approve minutes – January 8, 2024 (minutes recorded by Jean). Joe Phelan moved to accept minutes. Margaret Pierpont seconded. All in favor.

| CAC A8090.4 | Amount | Spent | Remaining |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 2025 Budget Requested \$2,500 | \$2,500 | 0 | \$2,500 |

Proposed East Clinton Firehouse - Michael:

- Michael sent his letter of review to the Planning Board on January 27, 2025, in advance of their February 4, 2025, meeting.
- Michael set up to meet at 5:15pm before the regular meeting to show members the maps.
- Michael has been asked to attend the March 4, 2025, Planning Board meeting to discuss his findings.

Education and Outreach – Barbara and Margaret:

- Barbara, Jean and Margaret met on January 31, 2025, to begin discussing education programs for the town as well as for the Summer Campers.
- Barbara contacted the DLC to give a talk on Water Conservation to include NRI maps.
- Invite DC Soil and Water to show its Stream Table at events
- Margaret offered to write an item on Clinton's water for the CAC website.
- Other ideas: Presentation on Pests (i.e. Spotted Lantern Fly, Stinkbugs, Jumping Worms) and on trees.
- Plan to have a table at the Library's Plant and Book sale on May 17, 2025

Wetland Committee - Margaret

- Met on January 16, 2025 to further discuss how the DEC changes in Wetland Regulation may impact the 250-78. Freshwater wetlands, watercourses, lakes, ponds and floodplains law in Clinton.
- The Town Board Liaison noted that the Town Board was considering public workshops in lieu of a committee.
- The February 20, 2025 meeting was canceled.

CAC/CSC Website (www.clintoncac.com) - Jenn

- Jenn was unable to attend the meeting.

Welcome to the Town of Clinton Postcards - Deborah

- Deborah was unable to attend the meeting.

Welcome to the Town of Clinton Folders - Barbara

- Barbara prepared 20 folders.
- She will add the updated Clinton Community Library and Clinton Historical Society brochures when available.
- It was suggested that the Emergency Disaster Plan be included when available.

Climate Smart Community Task Force - Joe

- \$10,000 NYSERDA (NYS Energy Research and Development Agency) grant for Highway Garage energy survey has been submitted and approved.
 - Joe, Michael Whitton, Eliot Werner, Clinton Highway Superintendent Todd Martin, and a representative from L&S Energy, a NYSERDA-approved energy audit vendor, attended a scoping meeting via Zoom, with NYSERDA's Jaden Beck and HVRC's Elizabeth Sun.
 - The scoping meeting discussion addressed a review of the Highway Garage Facility buildings, including the old town garage, that will be included in the energy survey.
 - L&S will start work in mid-March 2025, with a report with recommended actions to be shared approximately six weeks after finishing the energy audit.
- \$50,000 NYSEDA grant for implementing energy audit was submitted on December 12, 2024
 - Application reviewed by Elizabeth Sun, Hudson Valley Regional Council (HVRC) prior to submission
 - No response to the grant application has been received yet
 - Status update requested via 01/08/2025 email to HVRC
- Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County inquiry re: Climate Smart Resiliency Planning
 - Representatives from Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County reached out to Joe Phelan (Clinton CSC Task Force) and Barbara Mansell (Clinton CAC) regarding potential interest in participation in a project to develop a plan for the Town of Clinton to address potential local impacts related to climate change. Given our collective interest, Barbara and Joe each submitted a letter of interest, as requested by Dutchess CCE, to be used to support a grant proposal to be submitted to HVRC.
- Iroquois Pipeline:
 - Continuing inquiries into and requests made by the Chair of the Town of Poughkeepsie CSC Task Force for the Town of Clinton Board to pass a resolution opposing updates to the Iroquois Pipeline, which runs through a portion of the Town of Clinton, have been passed along to Town supervisor Whitton, who has responded that he already has sent a communication addressing the Iroquois Pipeline matter.
- Community Choice Aggregation (CCA):

- Town of Clinton had their planning informational meeting about resuming CCA with Joule on the February 6, 2025. The Town Board did not approve the program at that time.

Clinton Nature Trail – Barbara Mansell

- No updates

Other:

- The Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC) has a new Climate and Environment Educator, Scott Kleinberg. The annual Roundtable Event is being planned.
- Michael mentioned “[The O Zone](#) + [Flower Power](#)” located in Red Hook. The O Zone offers a food waste hauling service in northern Dutchess and offers native Pollinate Garden kits. Michael will research.
- Barbara mentioned that Dutchess Soil and Water are having their annual [Bare Root Seedling Sale](#). Orders must be received by March 10th. Pick up is April 27th and 28th.
- Barbara shared a link to the [NYSDEC Avian Influenza](#) update for Dutchess. It also provides the cautionary measures that need to be taken when an expired bird is found. At this point in time, songbirds have not been affected by it.

Upcoming Meetings and Events Involving CAC Presence

- Saturday, February 15, 2025 – “Great Backyard Bird Count” Library program begins with a presentation at 9am followed by a walk in the Nature Trail by Barbara Mansell.
- Tuesday, March 4, 2025 – Planning Board Meeting, 7pm, East Clinton Firehouse is on the Agenda.
- Saturday, May 17, 2025 - Clinton Community Library Book Sale, 9am – 3pm
- Saturday, June 7, 2025 – Clinton Community Day, Clinton Historical Society/ Creek Meeting House (2433 Salt Point Turnpike, Clinton Corners, NY 12514). Planning meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of each month @ 6:30pm.

Next CAC Meeting – March 12, 2025, 5:30pm in Masonic Hall

2025 CAC Meetings – April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 9, November 12, December 12.

Meeting adjourned 6:45pm.