

Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council
Meeting Location: Top floor of the Masonic Hall at the Town Complex
1215 Centre Rd, Rhinebeck, NY
August 16, 2023 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by Barbara Mansell, chair.

CAC Members: Mady Goldstein, Barbara Mansell, Jean McAvoy, Lynne Morrell, Margaret Pierpont
Member of the Public: Joann Schmidt

| 2023 Budget | Amount | Spent | Remaining |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| CAC A8090.4* | \$2,700 | \$259.50 | \$2440.50 |

*Details of the budget may be found in the August 16, 2023 agenda.

Minutes: A motion to accept the July 12, 2023 minutes was made by Mady and seconded by Lynne. The minutes were approved by the group.

Public Discussion - Spongy Moths

In the spring of 2024, town residents will see another infestation of Spongy Moths. Joann Schmidt, a concerned resident of Clinton, asked to discuss the research she has done on the feasibility of Aerial Spraying for the town. She had contacted the DEC inquiring about a reputable company that would do the spraying. She provided this information in an email. Meanwhile, Barbara has organized a Spongy Moth presentation to be given by experts Dr. Clive Jones and Dr. Charles Canham from the Institute of Ecosystem Studies, on Saturday October 21 at 1pm in the Town Hall. Through her discussions with Clive Jones, Barbara learned that there is not a 100% guarantee that spraying would solve the problem next year. The insecticide used, Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt), works best on young caterpillars. It is harmless to people, animals, and plants, but does affect other young moth and butterfly larvae. The proper timing of the application is key for it to work and it is very expensive. The group appreciated Joann's research and appreciated her coming to the meeting. They expressed their concerns about spraying and were not inclined to support the treatment. The Town of Clinton does not support spraying the town.

Barbara Mansell's Retirement 12/31/23

Barbara announced that she will retire from the CAC after 19 years of participation. The group requested that she create a list of her responsibilities.

Clinton Community Day

Lynne showed the group the CAC banner that she purchased from Minuteman Press. The group was very happy with the result. Lynne will organize volunteers for the CAC booth. Barbara and Lynne will meet in the CAC room to collect materials for the table. The DEC Spongy Moth information and the flyer announcing the Spongy Moth presentation will both be included in the handouts. There will be Pollinator Pathway information as well as children's coloring activities. Lynn will also put together a free raffle that will include a native plant, and a bird feeder that will be donated by Jean, and Mady will prepare a flyer on Artificial Night Lighting.

Welcome to the Town of Clinton Folders

Barbara will schedule a meeting to explain the content as well as create folders in time for Community Day.

Summer Camp

On August 8, 2023, Jean gave her 'Once Upon a Time' program to 10 campers, with artifacts ranging from 600 million years old to 100 years old. She found them surprisingly attentive! Thank you, Jean.

CSC Task Force

Joe was unable to attend the meeting.

ClintonCAC.com – Al Bacon

The continued development of the new CAC webpage(s) will begin again soon.

Clinton Nature Trail

Five benches are not ready from Custom Forest Products located on Meadowbrook Ln in Clinton. Barbara will contact them.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday, September 2, 2023: Clinton Community Day from 10am to 4pm in Clinton Corners at the Clinton Historical Society property.

Saturday, October 21, 2023: Spongy Moth Presentation & Discussion led by Clive G. Jones & Charles D. Canham, Emeritus Senior Scientists, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Millbrook. Time: 1pm to 2:30pm
Location: Clinton Town Hall

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm. The next meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2023, at 5:30pm.

2023 Meetings: October 11; November 8; December 13.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Mansell