

## **TOWN OF CLINTON CSC TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 28, 2023**

The March 28, 2023 meeting of the Town of Clinton Climate Smart Task Force was called to order at 7:01 pm. Committee members and guests in attendance were as follows:

In attendance:

Joe Phelan, CSC Task Force Chair

Jack Persely, CSC Task Force Member

Jean McAvoy, CSC Task Force Member

Richard Marshall, CSC Task Force

Todd Martin, CSC Task Force Member

Anna Harrod-McGrew, Cornell Cooperative Extension

### **Introduction**

Joe Phelan introduced the evening's meeting agenda and asked members if there were any questions or additions to the minutes of the previous meeting on February 28, 2023. With no questions or suggested additions, the minutes of the February 28, 2023 meeting were accepted by the acclamation of the Task Force members in attendance, as submitted.

### **Cornell Cooperative Extension Planning Support – Road-Stream Crossing Inventory and Management Plan; Climate Smart Resiliency Planning Tool Development**

There were no specific updates on the status of the work related to both of these initiatives, other than that they are ongoing.

### **Bronze Certification Review and Status Update**

Cornell Cooperative Extension's Anna Harrod-McGrew also has begun her review of the Town of Clinton's actions to be included as part of the Town of Clinton's Bronze certification application. She reviewed her update in great detail on the current status of the process, prior to submittal regarding requirements met and potential points allocated. Through the review process, Ms. Harrod-McGrew posed questions about related Town of Clinton activities and provided a number of suggestions for consideration prior to Bronze certification application submittal.

The CSC Task Force will continue to discuss and to plan, with the ongoing involvement of its members and Ms. Harrod-McGrew, to address future actions from the list of potential actions already identified (see below). In addition, the CSC Task Force will need to continue to collect, verify, and submit supporting data for the completed actions. Due to the late 2023 anticipated completion date for the Natural Resources Inventory (NRI), one of the "priority" actions required for bronze certification, currently being conducted through a Hudson River Estuaries/DEC grant, the CSC Task

Force will not be able to submit documentation for Bronze certification consideration until Winter/Spring 2024.

### **Municipal Climate Action Plan Development**

Richard Marshall reported on the status of the monthly virtual meetings of the Hudson Valley Regional Council's Climate Smart Communities Cohort Program that he and Joe Phelan have been attending since September 2022. These meetings are continuing and are providing support to address the development of a Municipal Climate Action Plan, to meet the following Bronze certification indicator: **PE2: Inventory Emissions, Set Goals, and Plan or Climate Action - Government Operations Climate Action Plan – Develop a government operations climate plan (12-16 points; Priority & CSC Grant eligible).**

To date, Richard Marshall has collected some preliminary data for the required sections of a Town "Climate Action Plan" template, in collaboration with Jack Persely, as a follow-up to the Executive Summary that Michael had developed and placed in a Google folder earlier this year as a Google doc for feedback. The second set of HVRC monthly meetings to support the ongoing Climate Action Plan development began on January 31, 2023 and will continue through June 2023.

### **Natural Resources Inventory**

Jack Persely provided an update on the NRI work currently being undertaken on the grant received from the DEC/Hudson River Estuaries Program in partnership with the neighboring communities the Town of Clinton, the Town of Washington, and the Village of Millbrook to conduct and update a Natural Resources Inventory, for use in municipal planning. Completion date of this project is estimated at early 2024.

### **Website Improvement**

Joe Phelan reported that, the Town of Clinton CAC continues to move forward with the development of its own website, under the leadership of Alice Bacon, Clinton CAC member. Links to the Town of Clinton website and other related websites, as appropriate are planned. Alice intends to have a template of the CAC/CSC Task Force website under development provided to the CAC, then to the CSC Task Force this winter, for possible completion, possibly in March 2023.

### **Green Fair 2023**

Possibilities for a Clinton Green Fair 2023 were discussed again, including the idea to conducting it as part of the Clinton Community Days event, being planned again for Labor Day Weekend 2023. The idea was met with general enthusiasm and an agreement to pursue this idea further during the Spring, so as to provide sufficient time for planning.

The next meeting of the Clinton Climate Smart Communities Task Force is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Clinton Masonic Lodge.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Joe Phelan, CSC Task Force