

Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council
Minutes – February 12, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by Barbara Mansell, chair.

CAC members present: Jean McAvoy, Marian Thompson, Merida Welles

Member of the Town Board: Michael Whitton

Members of the Public: Jeff Domanski, Eliot Werner

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jean McAvoy. It was seconded by Merida Welles. The January 8, 2020 minutes were approved by the group.

Finances: 2020 Budget: Amount: \$500 Spent: \$0 Remaining: \$500

Community Choice Aggregation – Jeff Domanski of Hudson Valley Energy, stated Clinton should be able to join the CCA on May 1st. The price will be \$.06361 per kW hour. Informational Opt Out letters provided by Hudson Valley Energy will be mailed in March. Two required informational meetings for Clinton residents will be held in April. Before the process can start, the Energy Supply Agreement between the town and Joule must be signed by Ray Oberly. Residents who get their electricity supply from Central Hudson residents will receive the letter. Those residents currently getting their electricity via a third party will not be able to take advantage of the CCA until they terminate their contract. Residents with solar panels cannot join Community Solar.

NY Transco Workshop – This meeting was held on January 28th. Mike Whitton reported that the towers will be an average of 10’ taller than the current towers and at an average of 90 feet tall. There will be no lights. All existing structures will be removed. Currently there are 59 sets of 2 towers running through Clinton, for a total of 118 towers. One run of 59 towers will be removed completely. The remaining 59 will be replaced by the taller towers. There are no plans to do anything with the western run of transmission lines. Transco will clear brush no further than the boundaries of their land and will let neighboring property owners know. Towers (positions) #2301 and #2302 are in a wetland directly south of Bulls Head. Transco states they will coordinate with the US Army Corps of Engineers (lead agency) to consult with the US Fish and Wildlife Service for potential impacts to federally-listed threatened and endangered species, as well as other federally-protected species and habitats. If species of concern are found, there was no definitive answer as to contingency plans.

Climate Smart Program Webpage – Merida rearranged the webpage showing the reasons why residents need to be encouraged to reduce emissions followed by what they can do to accomplish it. The webpage was sent to Fred Shequine (website coordinator), Ray Oberly and Carol Mackin for their approval.

Mailchimp Town Wide Email – The town board approved making use of Mailchimp. Carol Mackin will be the administrator. Barbara plans to meet with Carol to discuss the CAC’s needs.

Welcome Folders – Marian and Barbara produced 15 updated folders and were placed in the Town Clerk’s office as well as in the Clinton Community Library.

CAC and EMC Roundtable – Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 6:30pm at the Farm and Home Center CAC/EMC Annual Report form and 2020 Directory Information. Barbara sent the report to the DCCCE on February 11, 2020.

The **2020 Omega Neighbors Program Application** and the **Dutchess Soil and Water Annual Seedling Sale** were posted on the front page of the town’s website by Barbara

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Mansell