

**Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Location: Top floor of the Masonic Hall at the Town Complex**  
**1215 Centre Rd, Rhinebeck, NY**  
**January 11, 2023 Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 5:35pm by Barbara Mansell, chair.

**CAC Members:** Al Bacon, Marilyn Donahue-Schiller, Barbara Mansell, Jean McAvoy, Joe Phelan, Margaret Pierpont

**Town Board Liaison:** Katherine Mustello

| <b>2023 Budget</b> | <b>Amount</b> | <b>Spent</b> | <b>Remaining</b> |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| CAC A8090.4*       | \$2,700       | \$0          | \$2,700          |

\*Details of the budget may be found in the January 11, 2023 agenda.

**Minutes:** A motion to approve the October 12, 2022 minutes was made by Al Bacon and seconded by Marilyn Donahue-Schiller. The minutes were accepted by members present.

**Reappointments to CAC** – Barbara Mansell has been reappointed as Chairs of both the CAC and the Clinton Nature Trail for a one year. The terms of members Barbara Mansell, Joe Phelan, Jean McAvoy, Margaret Pierpont, and Lynne Morrell end on December 31, 2024.

**Planning Board Applications** – Barbara shared the Dutchess Reserve LLC 5 Lot Subdivision on Pumpkin Lane, Tax Grid No. 6568-00- 017281 (Joanna Swomley & Sandy Litvack) Sketch Plan approval in the Planning Board Minutes. <https://www.townofclinton.com/wp-content/uploads/2022-10-18-PB-Final-Minutes.pdf> The CAC will be asked to review the finalized plans.

**CAC&CSC Task Force website** – Al discussed she was not planning on presenting her idea for the design of the website, and solicited ideas from the group. She plans to present an outline of the website to both the CAC and CSC Task Force meetings in February. Discussion regarding the current website ensued. Currently, the CAC webpage, agendas and minutes are not visible. Katherine Mustello said Carol Mackin, Town Clerk, has been working on the town website making it easier for the public to locate information more directly. Barbara will contact Carol.

**Education Outreach** – Barbara will finalize a date with the Library for the Master Gardener presentation: “Rain Gardens: How Plants that Love Wet Feet Can Solve Home Garden Issues”. Joyce Tomaselli will be the presenter. Jack Persely of the CSC Task Force has organized two programs with the Library: “Electric Cars” on Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup> and “Climate Change: And How it Relates to the Town of Clinton” on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Barbara learned that Greg Quinn, Clinton town resident, has planted a field with native species especially for the honeybee hives on the property. This could be a possible Pollinator Pathway program. Al suggested a program on how some algae is good for the environment.

**CSC Task Force** – Joe reported that the Greenhouse Gas Inventory is almost done. The ongoing Culvert Planning Study for the town is investigating which culverts need to be addressed. The Climate Action Plan is continuing. The final Climate Smart Resiliency Planning Tool Development report was presented to the Town Board on January 10<sup>th</sup> by Anna Harrod-McGrew of CCEDC. It lists the need to include floodplain information, information on emergency preparedness, and climate action in the town Welcome Folders. Jack and Jean have inventoried the town maps in preparation for a Natural Resource Inventory grant. The grant requires partnership with a nearby town, which will be Millbrook. This inventory of existing maps has revealed that our best resource is the 2012 maps developed by Hudsonia as part of a biodiversity project. These maps, plus other

available data sources such as the NYSDEC Hudson Valley Natural Resource Mapper will be incorporated into a Natural Resource Inventory with technical assistance from the NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program and Cornell University Dutchess County Cooperative Extension. The resulting document will be a valuable resource in the development of the next Comprehensive Plan as well as ongoing Planning Board applications. The CSC Task Force plans to submit these accomplishments to the Hudson Valley Regional Council in April to receive Bronze status.

**Wappinger Creek Watershed Intermunicipal Council (WIC)** – No date yet.

**Clinton Nature Trail** – Barbara met with Andy Cooley and Tim Horton of the Highway Department to walk the trail on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. There was above normal flooding on the Streamloop along the Little Wappinger Creek. Andy discovered that a family of beavers had built a dam behind the Highway Department. The dam and beavers were removed and relocated by a professional hired by the Highway Department. The CAC paid \$575. We will meet in the spring to discuss bench replacements.

### **Upcoming Events**

**Thursday, March 9, 2023:** “Rain Gardens: How Plants that Love Wet Feet Can Solve Home Garden Issues” at 6pm. Register for this event on the Clinton Community Library website via the calendar

**Saturday, April 22, 2023:** “Electric Cars” at 10:30am. Register for this event on the Clinton Community Library website via the calendar

**Saturday, May 13, 2023:** “Climate Change: And How it Relates to the Town of Clinton” at 10:30am. Register for this event on the Clinton Community Library website via the calendar.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm. The next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2022, at 5:30pm.

**2023 Meetings:** March 8; April 12; May 10; June 14; July 12; August 9; September 13; October 11; November 8; December 13.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Mansell