

**Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council
Minutes – January 13, 2021**

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 4pm by Barbara Mansell, chair.

CAC members present: Jean McAvoy, Marian Thompson, Maya Goer-Palenzuela

Member of the Town Board: Michael Whitton

Finances: 2021 Budget: **Amount:** \$500 **Spent:** \$0 **Remaining:** \$500

Pollinator Pathway (PP) – PP focuses on establishing native pollinator-friendly habitats and food sources for bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinating insects and wildlife. It encourages property owners to avoid the use of pesticides, herbicides and lawn chemicals, downsizing lawns, and manage the removal of invasive plant species. The group suggested that we identify areas that can be certified as a Pollinator Pathway such as our town's parks, agricultural farms and especially town residents. Which neighboring towns already have established pathways? The group felt we need to slowly introduce this concept to residents via possible education programs at the Library. Investigative tasks were assigned.

Barbara: Look into educational programs, ie Master Gardeners of DCCCE that may be suitable for Library. Find the Farm Tour details that were held in Clinton in the past.

Jean: Contact: Glenda Schwarz of the Garden Club regarding native plantings

Marian: Talk to Hackett - Agway regarding native plants that they sell. Talk to O'Leary farm regarding their farming practices. Speak to Omega to learn their policy on invasive plant species.

Michael: Speak to Didi Barrett regarding her work in this area; Todd at the Highway Department to understand their weed control measures.

Maya: Work on an informational flyer to put up in POs and local shops. There are PP handouts available the PP's website: <https://www.pollinator-pathway.org/>

Local Champions Grant Application: Thank you to Michael for submitting the application in December. There were 24 communities that applied. Clinton was in the top 12 but was not chosen. We are encouraged to apply again next year.

Unified Solar Permit: Accepted

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Mansell