

Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council
Meeting location: Top floor of Masonic Hall at Town Complex

Minutes- July 13,2022

Meeting was called to order by Barbara Mansell at 5:34. A motion to approve the minutes from June 8th, was made by Joe Phelan and seconded by Al Bacon. Minutes were accepted by members.

Attendees: Barbara Mansell, Margaret Pierpont, Joe Phelan, Jean McAvoy, Alice Bacon, Marian Thompson. Katherine Mustello attended as liaison from the Town Board.

Barbara ordered 2 dog stations for the nature trail using some of our funds. Plastic holders for Pollinator Pathway flyers and a laminated poster were added to Clinton Nature Trail. The garden between the Masonic Hall and schoolhouse building was planted with 10 native plants. Members of the council and Chris Johnson, 4-H leader of "Blooming Kids", volunteered to water the 5 plants that were planted latest on the weekends, while Chris from the Highway Department will water during the week. Eagle Scout, Liam Stark is developing plans for the installation of benches on the Clinton Nature Trail to be finished for the trail by Dec 2022.

Margaret has persisted with contacting Omega Institute about some kind of collaboration, but there hasn't been much response. She will continue to try to work with them. Questions were raised as to whether the Omega facility was open to CC residents yet. Joe says they are handing out applications.

Barbara purchased 5 more Pollinator Pathway signs, 5 plants from No. Dutchess Botanical Gardens and 5 bags of mulch for the new garden. The town will reimburse the council. The mulch purchase will be directly debited from the council's budget.

The group discussed paying for perhaps 3 talks @ \$75 each at the town hall by various Master Gardeners to encourage use of native plants and eradication of invasive plants in home gardens. Education about Pollinator Pathways would also be part of the program. We were given an extensive list from which to choose talks available by zoom or in person. Barbara made some suggestions as to which talks would be most germane to our latest mission. (See latest agenda for those recommendations.)

Barbara shared the I Bird New York Beginners' Birders Challenge with the Summer Campers on 7/7. Discussion ensued about doing education for the kids at summer camp at Fran Mark Park, but the timing is very short as the summer camp goes on for just a few more weeks. For the future: A suggestion was made to collect caterpillars in shoe boxes for issuing to children interested in watching butterflies emerge from their chrysalises.

Barbara is gathering materials for "Welcome" folders from Dutchess County Soil and Water.

Photographs of the highly invasive Spotted Lantern Fly were passed around with recommendations as to how best to dispose of the insects. Jean thought that a SWAT Team might be needed.

Joe Phelan, of the Climate Smart Task Force, reported on the Natural Resource Inventory progress. Joe, Mike Whitton, and Barbara met with Anna Harrod-McGrew of the CCEDC, attended a meeting

on 7/6 on Climate Smart Resiliency Planning. Information from that meeting was sent to members via email recently.

Jean and Jake have been entering the Benchmarking data supplied by Carol Mackin, regarding fuel usage for the last several years by the town of Clinton. This information is required by the Climate Smart Program.

Meeting ended at approximately 7:00.

Respectfully submitted, Marian G Thompson