

Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council
Due to the Winter Weather Advisory, this meeting was held via Zoom
March 9, 2022 Minutes

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

CAC members: Maya Goer-Palenzuela, Barbara Mansell, Lynne Morrell, Joe Phelan, Margaret Pierpont, Marian Thompson

Member of the Town Board: Katherine Mustello

2022 Budget	Amount	Spent	Remaining
CAC A8090.4	\$2,100.00*	\$160.00	\$2.040.00

*Travel. .411 \$100

*Supplies .481 \$2000 (This is earmarked for 6 benches, dog waste stations, plantings and signs.)
\$160.00 was spent on the purchase of Pollinator Pathway signs.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from February 9, 2022, was made by Joe Phelan and seconded by Marian Thompson. The minutes were accepted by members.

Pollinator Pathway (PP)

Maya Goer-Palenzuela presented her proposed “*Pollinator Pathway Management Guidelines*” for Clinton at the March 8, 2022 Town Board meeting. The town board accepted the guidelines, and the document has been to the CAC webpage on the town’s website. <https://www.townofclinton.com/government/conservation-advisory-council/>

Members of the CAC and the public attended Maya Goer-Palenzuela’s presentation called “Pollinators: Who/What Are They & Why Do They Matter?” at the Clinton Community Library on March 5, 2022. The presentation was recorded and will be found on the library’s website.

Barbara Mansell stated that the Town of Clinton website has been moved to a new server that enables better support. The addition of a new Pollinator Pathway webpage is possible according to Fred Shequine, the Business Technology Consultant to the town. The group was asked to bring their thoughts about the page to the next meeting.

The Friendship Garden Club’s meeting will be on April 13, 2022, at 10am.

Margaret Pierpont is preparing handouts on best mowing guidelines for the Green Fair on May 14, 2022. She will also begin research into developing a hands-on workshop for pollinator-friendly planters and pots. Members suggested possible garden centers as a start.

Education Outreach

Lynne Morrell has volunteered to organize a list of events that the CAC could attend to continue education outreach. In addition to the Green Fair on Saturday, May 14, 2022, Barbara Mansell suggested the Clinton Community Library’s Book Sale on Saturday, May 21, 2022. Todd Martin of the Highway Department is the contact for the Clinton Community Day that will be on Saturday, September 3, 2022. Lynne plans to have materials organized ready to use by volunteers. Barbara Mansell will have a *History of the CAC* handout ready for such events. Maya Goer-Palenzuela noted there is a Single-Use Plastic display board available from Cornell Cooperative Extension.

CSC Task Force

The deadline to submit documentation for the town to achieve Bronze status is due by July 8, 2022.

Benchmarking - Kat Carroll of Hudson Valley Regional Council reached out to the task force requesting assistance for another community. Members Jean McAvoy and Jake Strauss responded to the request, and Jake is working on a step-by-step guide that will be shared when completed.

Joe Phelan reported that he, along with key members of the CSC, attended a CCEDC zoom discussion on Road-Stream Crossing Inventory and Management Plan. There is no cost to the Town, and it will elevate the town's needs status when applying for funding for resizing and replacing town-owned culverts and bridges.

Jack Persely will attend a Repair Café meeting being held by the Pleasant Valley CAC on Saturday, March 19, 2022. A Repair Café at the Starr Library in Rhinebeck was held on Saturday, February 12, 2022. Joe Phelan and Barbara Mansell attended and were very impressed.

When gas-powered hand tools need replacing, Melissa Karchmer of the Highway Department is exploring the possibility of replacing them with rechargeable ones.

Fall Kill Watershed Coalition Zoom Meeting

This meeting was attended by Barbara Mansell and Joe Phelan on Wednesday March 2, 2022. A small area in the south west portion of Clinton is in the Fall Kill Watershed, but most of it is in the towns of Hyde and Poughkeepsie. The Fall Kill feeds into the Hudson River between the Walkway and Poughkeepsie Train Station. At this meeting, a Marist Student presented her research on the watershed, and found Clinton's portion is of no concern because it is in an isolated, forest landscape. Clinton's main watershed is the Wappinger Creek. Katherine Mustello attended the first Wappinger Creek Watershed Intermunicipal Council (WIC) quarterly meeting.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, March 19, 2022, at 10am at Clinton Community Library by Maya Goer-Palenzuela - "Best Native Plant Choices for Our Eco-Region for Threatened Pollinator Survival"

Plants and pollinators do not understand a sign that says "Welcome to Dutchess County". By viewing the United States without man-made borders, we zero in on Clinton Corners and surrounding areas. We will learn characteristics of the current biome. We learn what native plants we can nurture or add to our properties, that sustain the greatest amount of wildlife (focusing mainly on pollinators) based on research by Doug Tallamy.

Thursday, March 31, 2022, 6:00pm – 8:00pm - 2022 Annual Dutchess County CAC & EMC Roundtable via Zoom

The Annual Dutchess County CAC (Conservation Advisory Committee) & EMC (Environmental Management Council) Roundtable is an opportunity to hear and learn from the EMC and other CAC/CABs in Dutchess County on the work they have completed in 2021, challenges each has faced, plans for 2022 and an opportunity to discuss and address common goals and challenges.

Clinton CAC 2021 Annual Report has been submitted for this meeting.

Saturday April 2, 2022, at 10am at Clinton Community Library by Maya Goer-Palenzuela "Property Management: Nurturing Habitat for Non-Humans"

Can we make small or grand gestures where we live, work, and play to cultivate a harmonious relationship with nature? Let's talk about how old-fashioned techniques of land management are detrimental to our fragile ecosystem, fragmentation, and repairing damage done as we learn more about being responsible land stewards.

Saturday, May 14, 2022, 11:00am – 3:00pm at Fran Mark Park - Green Fair

Details to be finalized.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm and the next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2022, at 5:30pm.

Meetings for the remainder of 2022 will be May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9, and December 7.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Mansell