

Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council Minutes – November 13, 2019

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

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

Town Board member present: Michael Whitton

Minutes: The motion to approve the minutes was made by Merida Welles. It was seconded by Jean McAvoy. The October 9, 2019 minutes were approved.

Communications: The SEQRA review of Devereux- Dewitts Bed and Breakfast at 18 Hollow Road was reviewed. A letter of recommendation had already been sent to the Planning Board on October 15, 2019. Received on November 9, 2019, the Hughes-Ghee – Shed Proposal at 8 Schoolhouse Road was reviewed. A letter of recommendation will be sent the Planning Board.

Finances: 2019 Budget: **Amount:** \$500 **Spent:** \$25.60 **Remaining:** \$474.40

Climate Smart Program:

- Community Choice Aggregation (CCA): There were 2 informational events regarding the CCA plan for the Town of Clinton: Saturday 10/12/2019 at Clinton Town Hall, and Tuesday 10/22/2019, at West Clinton Firehouse.
 - Maya had revised the flyer. Maya and Jean distributed to the local post office and shops.
 - A video of the 10/12/19 meeting was recorded and is available on the town's website: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uG7erUXaqYs>
 - The CCA slide presentation is available on the town's website: <http://www.townofclinton.com/wp-content/uploads/HVCP-Clinton-event-slides-10.12.2019-v1.pdf>
 - The Town of Clinton Authorization CCA Package was submitted to the Department of Public Service by Jeff Domanski of Hudson Valley Energy. When approved, a letter from the Town will be mailed to Clinton residents notifying them how they may "Opt Out" of the CCA. Two more public CCA meetings will be scheduled.
- Town of Clinton webpage: Merida contacted Europa McGovern. Europa offered to help edit the Climate Smart content for the webpage. Merida feels progress will be made.

Nature Trail Subcommittee: Jake Bancroft approached the CAC hoping to develop an Eagle Scout Project for the Nature Trail. Barbara looks forward to working with him. Also, Barbara requested Theron Thompkins of the Highway Department to mow the meadow in the Nature Trail.

Wappinger Creek Intermunicipal Council (WIC): The next meeting is on November 15, 2019 at 9am at the Farm and Home Center in Millbrook.

Other:

Jean attended the **Aquifer and Stream Corridor Protection-Planning Strategies for Local Water Conservation** on 10/10/2019. Speaker Russell Urban-Mead of Chazan Companies gave a presentation on Wellhead and Aquifer Protection. Some key points from the presentation: 1) soil types predict groundwater recharge properties), 2) the pumping rate from a well should not be confused with the consumption rate. About 80% of water pumped returns back to recharge the groundwater, if well and septic are within the same aquifer), 3) Cluster developments may be good for preserving open space), but if wells are placed too close together, recharge capacity may decrease. In addition, two versions of model zoning laws for groundwater protection were discussed. These exceed the Town of Clinton aquifer protection law by including the following: 1) a method for calculating recharge and consumption to protect aquifer capacity, 2) cluster subdivision layout guidance, and 3) pumping test criteria which fill program gaps between the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York State Department of Health. Both model zoning laws are available from the Dutchess County Dept. Of Planning.

The committee discussed instances in the Town of Clinton where well performance has been adversely affected by subsequent drilling of additional wells in the vicinity. It appears that exceeding aquifer capacity is a local problem in some instances.

Barbara will send the draft of the Aquifer Protection Overlay section that will be added to the town's zoning.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm. Respectfully submitted, Barbara Mansell