Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council (CAC)
clintoncac.com
Meeting Location: Top floor of Masonic Hall at the Town Complex, 1215 Centre Road, Rhinebeck, NY
Minutes – September 9, 2026 – 5:00pm

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM.

Attendees: CAC Members: Michael Hurd, Barbara Mansell, Joe Phelan, Margaret Pierpont, Nick Sacerdote

Review and Approve Minutes – August 12, 2026 Minutes were taken by Barbara Mansell. A motion to approve them was made by Michael Hurd. Nick Sacerdote seconded the motion. All were in favor. The minutes were approved.

CAC A8090.4	Amount	Spent	Remaining
2026 Budget	$3,400	$1,210.76	$ 2,189.24

2027 Budget – On August 24th, Barbara submitted a request for $2,500. It includes estimated costs for the clintoncac.com annual subscription, CAC/CSC postcards and mailing, sponsoring environmental presentations, supplies and materials, native plantings in the Norene Coller Nature Trail, and costs for CCD and Library outreach.

Planning Board - Michael – No report

Comprehensive Plan Committee Update – Michael stated that the committee has received over 450 responses to the survey thus far. The deadline for receiving responses is October 3rd. The committee will begin meeting twice per month in October.

Regional Resilience Grants by The Understory – Applications are due November 18th.
The invasive Spotted Lanternfly population has greatly increased in our town. The host plant for this insect is the invasive Tree of Heaven (Ailanthus). The group thought it would be useful to map the population of these trees in the town, with a focus on town parks, in order to educate residents and initiate an eradication program. Deborah, Jean, Michael, and Nick have formed a subcommittee to work on a grant proposal for this project. There were no updates at this time.

Regional Resilience Grants by The Understory with the Library
Barbara, Margaret, Jean and Joe will meet with Brytanie Killebrew, Programming & Outreach Coordinator, and Carol Bancroft, Director of the Clinton Community Library, on Friday, September 11th at 10am to discuss their ideas for a grant that would include CAC&CSC TF's participation.

CAC/CSC Public Outreach – Jean
Jean is working on a spreadsheet that lists the history of our public outreach. We plan to meet after the above meeting at the library at 11am on September 11th to review the great work that she has done so far. Others may join us.

Clinton Community Library (CCL)&CAC Partnership for Educational Events on the Norene Coller Nature Trail – There were 21 attendees, including Lynne and Margaret, at Barbara's Butterfly Walk on Saturday, August 15th. Margaret will lead a Meditative Nature Walk on Saturday, September 19th. Margaret has organized a "Fall Garden Clean-Up Lecture" at the library on September 12th at 11am and a "Fungi Identification Walk" on October 3rd at 11am on the Norene Coller Nature Trail,

both led by Nick. These events have been added to the CAC website.

Barbara emailed the town requesting that the Streamloop on the Norene Coller Nature Trail be cleaned up and widened in time for Margaret's walk on September 19th.

CAC/CSC Website (www.clintoncac.com) – Ray and Barbara Mansell
A future update to the clintoncac website could be "Supporting Pollinators". Mike Whitton and Fred Shequine stated that according to NYS Open Meetings Law, the CAC can keep its domain name as long as the Agendas and Minutes are saved on the town's website.

Town Website - CAC and CSC Agendas and Minutes have been updated on their respective pages on the town website as well as on the Laserfiche.

Natural Resource Inventory Workshop by CCEDC - "NRIs in Action: Using NRIs", September 23rd, 5:30pm-7:30pm, 2715 Route 44, Millbrook. This program is free, but registration is required. Register online here: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/MFDYU0VKdr. We need to share this with the Planning and Zoning Boards. Nick and Margaret plan on attending. Barbara will forward the email to the Planning and Zoning Boards.

Climate Smart Communities Task Force – Joe
A Climate Vulnerability Assessment Workshop will be held on September 29th. Barbara and Joe will be attending. The meeting notice will be sent to Town Board members, the Highway Department, and East and West Clinton Fire Departments. Jean has completed the next stage of the Benchmarking document and plans to share with the town. The group is still discussing possibilities for their submission for a Resiliency Grant. Joe reported the Highway garage grant issues still have yet to be resolved. The detailed update on the Government Operations Climate Action Plan (GOCAP) Report can be found in the July 28th CSC minutes. Barbara attached the 2026-07-28-CSC-Minutes and 2026-08-25-CSC-Agenda to the CAC email meeting notice.

Revisit Town of Clinton Conservation Advisory Council Postcards in 2027 – Deborah will review the postcards and will share her thoughts of any updating at the October meeting.

Clinton Community Day – Lynne will find out if Dutchess Soil and Water would be able to attend with their water table exhibit.

Upcoming Events
Saturday, September 12, 2026 - CCL&CAC Partnership – Fall Garden Clean-Up Lecture given by Nick Sacerdote at the Library at 11am.

Saturday, September 19, 2026 - CCL&CAC Partnership - Summer Walk Series: Meditative Nature Walk with Margaret. Meet at the Norene Coller Nature Trail at 9am.

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Wednesday, September 23, 2026 - Natural Resource Inventory Workshop at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County. "NRIs in Action: Using NRIs", 5:30pm-7:30pm, 2715 Route 44, Millbrook. his program is free. Pre-registration is required. Register online here: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/MFDYU0VKdr

Saturday, October 3, 2026 – CCL&CAC Partnership – Fungi Identification Walk with Nick Sacerdote. Meet at the Norene Coller Nature Trail at 11am.

Next CAC Meeting: October 14, 2026 @ 5:00pm

2026 Meetings: November 11 (Veteran's Day?); December 9.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Mansell