

**Clarence Conservation Council Minutes**  
**August 10, 2023**

**Present: Robert Geiger, Cheryl Cantlon, Paul Shear, Chick Biegner, Steve Diver, Ron Walkowiak, Peg Walker, Guest Barb Maisch and Jon Bleuer**

**Any Minute Corrections from last month: none**

**C. Cantlon offered to take August Minutes**

**Meeting called to order by: S. Diver**

**Peg Walker Presented this budget: balance 379.77, July expense 101.50 (scout project)**

**Updates:**

**Bob Geiger: We need to develop next year's budget**

**Nothing is done yet on the mountain bike trail development**

**Peter DiConstanzo in also involve with mountain bike group**

**Jon Bleuer brought up potential of disc golf at Beeman Creek park, after discussion group felt that Beeman was not a suitable area but perhaps the open areas at the Thompson Road Park location would be a better fit.**

**Ron Walkowiak thought that there was an open area study done by the town that could be referenced for potential disc golf area.**

**Bob G. asked for a motion to change the escarpment trail name to the "Peter Wolfe Escarpment trail" Bob G. presented motion , Ron W. 2<sup>nd</sup> voted and PASSED.**

**Paul Shear: Town purchased 500 tree tubes and 1000 stakes to be placed on the trees seedlings that were planted I the spring at the Nature Center. Troop 27 is in the planning stages of tube/stake installation**

**Jon Bleuer: The commitment letter was signed and grant application has been submitted to NYS DEC for a \$75000 grant the Town of Clarence would match \$25000. This grant is for tree planting in the town. 100k will cover the planting of ~ 175 trees.**

**Wehrle bike path: I mile path that connects Harris Hill to Westshore bike path. Majority of path is in the Erie County right away. The only areas available for town planting activities are at Sunset Park which is town owned.**

**Oak Savannah: S of Sheridan, E of Harris Hill Rd., W. of west, Boncrest The town has a federal grant for this area but has run up against an onerous appraisal process to get the funds released. The town is continuing to work**

on the process. C. Biegner suggested working with the WNY Land Conservancy to help facilitate process

**Cheryl. Cantlon:**

**Eagle project: Ben Castellani has completed this portion of his eagle scout project, which included trail maintenance and signage. He also has created a new map with the extended portion of the new “Peter Wolfe Escarpment Trail”**

**WNYPRISM: Will again invite them to the Spring open house and also have them set up a training session and Bike path project for the Town of Clarence. The committee only has to provide a location: Nature Center and publicity, we will post on social media.**

**Ron Walkowiak:**

**WNY Re-Tree is looking for locations to plant: any areas in Clarence?**

**Suggested a possible “Clarence Prestigious Tree” inventory he noted that there are many unique and should be noted trees in Clarence. One example is the Chestnut Oak on Main St in front of Gary’s Pool. Maybe a project where clarence residents can submit their trees to be placed in the inventory. Maybe a project of an Eagle scout to develop an inventory system**

**Steve Diver: Possible purchase of land to enlarge the Beeman Creek park area, DEC grant opportunity discussion**

**New Business:**

**Set Date for Spring Arbor Day Open house tentative Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Possible Vendors/speakers:**

**Family Support Center**

**Kevin Floss (speaker)**

**WNY PRISM**

**Youth Bureau**

**Dave Odonnell (Eastern Monarch)**

**RonvWalkowiak (trees)**

**Work on 2024 Budget**

**Next Meeting Sept 14<sup>th</sup> at the Nature Center**

**Motion to adjourn**

**Submitted by Cheryl Cantlon**

**Minor corrections by Steve Diver, 8/23/23**