

## Clarence Conservation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2024

Present: Barb Maisch, Steve Diver, Cheryl Cantalon, Bob Altieri, Ron Walkowiak, Peg Walker, Casey Diederich, Chick Biegner

Visitor: Daniel Roelofs (interested in Weber Farm), Laurie Sauls (liaison between CCAC and boyscouts), Bob Geiger (retired councilman), Paul Shear (former liaison)

Meeting Start: **7:00 pm**

Bob Altieri says town board is excited about the tree planting.

Budget: Started with \$1100. Cheryl just purchased tables.

For arbor day: Water, granola bars, coffee. Maybe bring large water dispenser with cups.

Met with Jim Burkhardt at the nature center. Walked the perimeter area, they marked trees to thin out due to dead/disease. Parks will clean it out. The entrance to the nature center from the senior center will be where the old house was. People can park at the senior center and walk where the house was raised, this is where the trail will start. There will be a Kiosk with information about the nature center and the trails. Jim was very helpful, the tree planting area was defined.

Three planting areas: Behind old building, about 100 trees/shrubs, (trail approach), perimeter of the highway department, a big section has been cleared - another 100 trees there. Base of operations will be the senior center.

Steve and Cheryl will show seniors where the trails are - the senior center will be the launching point of the trails.

Chick recommends using the Seniors as a resource and get them involved in the Nature Center trails.

Bob Geiger said to contact Nikki Geiger. She does all the activities at the Senior Center.

Zeb and Osman have been notified of the tree species. Nate put some forward and Ron vetted a few. They will choose what they would like to plant.

Cheryl suggested marking paint to make certain the trees are planted in the proper areas. Ron suggested to keep the planting in checkerboard pattern for mowing purposes. 7 x 7.

Headlamp hike was successful: had about 50 hikers. It increased the knowledge of the nature center. Steve hopes to partnership with another group (like the family support center) that will take the lead on these. Evan finds people in the community may align well with nature center activities.

May need signs for handicap/baby.

Boot Station: Cheryl put in application with WNY Prism. Awarded a station. They will make a placard for the boot station. It will feature an invasive. Must go to Home Depot to get the supply kit and then make it. Need to decide where to put it.

Barb presents the logos: New logo will be used on: Letter head, website, flyers, brochures, posters, banners, consent forms for hikes, articles in the bee, apparel, trail markers and boot brush station, stickers.

Committee voted on logo - one was chosen almost unanimously.

Letterhead will be done through the town.

Will put logo on a t-shirt or hat so committee member can wear them at community events to identify us. Steve suggested looking into checking the cost to put the logo on t-shirts.

Project signup - let Steve know what you would like to work on. Would like to broaden our scope.

Casey will reach out to water keeper about their spring clean up.

Arbor Day open house: Pass out tree seedlings and two nature programs going on and projects that engage youth. April 27th at 10 a.m. Angela Baren will do a blue bird presentation. Will be building bluebird houses. Will take hike out to meadows and put up two new bluebird boxes. There will be precut wood and assembling the boxes on site.

Nate Moray will do a guided hike: tree identification. This will be at the end of the program.

Red Bud and White Pine will be given out.

Tabling will be: giving away milkweed seeds, sunflower seeds, pollinator seed mix,

Erie County forest rangers, Youth Bureau, Rotary, Lions club,

Recycling can: We need recycling bins at the nature center.

Bob Geiger says everyone takes their garbage out.

Buffalo Water Keeper will come to the May meeting to talk about the boat launch.

Outdoor performance space: Small informal space, perhaps could be at the nature center.

Need Senior Center Liaison - bring conservation advisement to the senior center.

Meeting conclusion: **8:50 pm**

**April 11th is the next meeting** and Arbor Day will be finalized.

