

**Minutes of Conservation Advisory Council,
12 June 2025 Meeting in the Kathy Hallock Conference Room**

Steve Diver called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Pledge to the Flag

Present: Steve Diver, Chick Biegner, Ron Walkowiak, Barbara Maisch, Paul Shear, Bob Altieri, Casey Diederich

Visitor: Owen Shifflet – representing the Clarence High School environmental club.

Absent: Joel Radder, Bob Geiger, Lori Sauls, Dennis Londos

Financial Report: Lori provided the committee with updated budget numbers for 2025.

Total 2025 Budget: \$2,750.00

Expenses for the Month: \$863.30

*Speaker fees are still pending

Bob Altieri updates:

- New York State DEC announced that they will no longer offer hogweed control. Bob will send this notification to our committee in a separate email.
- Bob announced that the towns fireworks event, Fireworks in the Park, will take place on Monday, 30 June from 4:00 pm to dusk at the main street town park. Rain date is Tuesday, 01 July.

Steve and Cheryl updates;

- Met with the Environmental Club at the Clarence High School. This club is interested in doing some gardening and installing tree tubes as well as assisting with an electronics recycling event. The electronics recycling event is ongoing with Jamie Dussing.
- WNY Prism training took place on 31 May at the Nature Center. Went very well. Was attended by about 8 people. Picture of this group was submitted to the Bee.
- Cheryl told the committee about the Boxwood plant moth. Spraying needs to be done on each plant.
- The Environmental club will be taking over the small garden at eh senior center beginning in the Fall.

Bee articles update from Barb and Cheryl;

- Upcoming articles will appear in the June, July, August and September editions on the last Thursday of the month.
- Steve will generate a future article on composting.

Mill Pond Survey update;

- Casey provided the committee with the Siltation survey that he performed on the pond at the Main Street Town Park this past month. His survey included the depth of the silt as well as the depth of the water. The survey was taken at approximately 15 points Upstream and at the Outflow areas. All samples were taken from the shore of the pond. A large amount of silt was discovered, generally greater than 50% of the total depth.
- Paul suggested another way to measure using a long pole and brush used to clean pools. Casey agreed that he will check into this method.
- Casey will talk to Buffalo Riverkeepers about the initial assessment and will report back to Bob to review with the Town Board.

Old Business

- Steve discussed the trails at the Nature Center. Will order 25 orange disks for \$20 that will be used on the perimeter trail.
- This canopy of this trail needs to be cut back before the two Youth Bureau Camps take place the weeks of 14 July and 28 July. The committee suggested that Dawn Kinney should contact Jason Holden to request that the Parks Department take care of this action. Bob took care of this with Dawn on 16 June.
- Steve mentioned that he is working on the layout of the trails using GPS so that he can generate a color-coded trail map.
- Steve and Bob are working with Jason to install 6 to 8 (4" x 4") marker posts. Jason agreed to do this after 04 July.
- Cheryl is working to have a Friends of the Conservation kick off meeting with people that have previously expressed interest in the Conservation group.
- Owen told us that the high school Environmental Club is planning to install the sleeves on the trees that were planted this past April at the highway department. They plan to do this task in the fall. Mrs. Murdoch is their school advisor.
- Steve is working with Jonathan Bleuer to get a "Tree City Designation" included in the towns next Town Code update.

New Business

1. Steve mentioned that the Interpretive Trail at the Nature Center needs to be updated. There are stone markers but some of the natural points of interest are gone. Can this be a project for the new Friends of Conservation group?
2. Cheryl discussed the 20 interpretive preprinted ID signs that will be ordered. These will be used for trees at the Nature Center and some of the large trees on public land identified in the tree survey. This has already been budgeted for \$150.
3. Future possible speakers for the fall – Joe McGreevy (Historical Society) and Michael Klepp (owl presentations). Motion was passed to invite Michael to speak. We have \$400 already budgeted for this activity.

4. Bob completed the required paperwork to reserve our 2026 meetings;

All Nature Center meetings – by application in the town clerks office.

All Kathy Hallock meetings – with Amy Major

08 January – Kathy Hallock room

12 February – Kathy Hallock room

12 March – Kathy Hallock room

09 April – Nature Center

14 May – Nature Center

11 June – Nature Center

09 July – Nature Center

13 August - Nature Center

10 September – Nature Center

08 October – Kathy Hallock room

12 November – Kathy Hallock room

10 December – Kathy Hallock room

Motion to adjourn made at 8:07 PM

Next meeting is scheduled for 10 July at 7:00 PM in the Nature Center.