

June 2026 Minutes

(minutes taken by Steve Diver)

Clarence Conservation Advisory Council June 11, 2026

June 2026 Meeting @ Clarence Nature Center

- Prior to the meeting, seeing only 4 Council members, Steve asked if we needed a quorum. Bob said he didn't think so. Since we didn't plan on voting, we agreed that a meeting could proceed.
- 7:01PM: Call to order and pledge of allegiance (Steve)
- In attendance: Bob Altieri, Joel Radder, Steve Diver, Chick Biegner, Ron Walkowiak.
- Visitors? None.
- No prior minutes to accept since the May meeting was cancelled.

Updates

- Bob Altieri said that residents near Highway petitioned the Town Board to utilize Town land for a community garden. They agreed to the Town's terms, and the project is moving forward. The Council thought this was a good idea.
- Sunnking Electronic Recycling—no update yet from Sunnking.
- Environmental Club at CHS
 - In 2026-2027 the club would like to plan an in-School e-recycling event. Steve and Cheryl are advising the Club. Isabel from Sunnking also involved.
- Any updates from other Town Boards/Councils?
 - For Greenprint: possible parcel of land at Miland and Salt if not all bequeathed to Ducks Unlimited.
 - From Arboretum Committee: Tree dedication and Sesquicentennial planned at the Clarence Arboretum on July 3rd.
- Facebook update. 560 followers, Cheryl is posting updates.
- Bootbrush station at Beeman Creek installed 5/27/2026 by Cheryl, husband Tim, Steve and Barbara. Cheryl will send info to Bee.
- We had a presence at the Bike Safety bike rodeo May 16, 2025. Steve set up a table. It was well attended, lots of families were interested and passed out maps and trifold flyers.
- Trifold brochure—passed out at the Bike rodeo. It was well received. See sample. Barb did an amazing job on this and the graphic design was so well done, that the printer didn't charge us to rasterize (\$75). Barbara is truly talented and we appreciate her leadership in this. There was a general consensus and thankfulness for Barb's contributions to the Council.

Follow ups on old business

- Budget. Balance \$2216. Bob pointed out that we need to add \$400 for the bench at the Clarence Nature Center. It was included as a part of an Eagle Project, and the Council previously voted unanimously to pay for this item.
- Stickers update
 - "Conserve Today, Preserve Tomorrow"; updated quote: 300 decals for \$300; discussion and approval? Previously approved in March, but there was a problem with printing and alternative vendors were too expensive. Vinyl Graphics got their printer fixed and the price stands as quoted six months ago as 300 stickers for \$300. This budget item was already

voted on and passed by council from the March 2026 meeting. It was brought up to see if there were any suggestions for additions and there were not.

- Trail buildup at Thompson Rd. We have been asked to build up the trail in the wet section from Thomson Rd to improve access. A group of Clarence seniors would like to walk there and approached Councilman Dan Michnik to see if this trail can be improved. We also had suggestions to do so from Council members Diederich and Diver. Some trail work has been done previously by Parks under advisement from Council. More crushed stone buildup is the easiest and we advised Parks to put this in their queue, recognizing that Parks is very busy right now. Consensus was that's OK, so long as it's on the list. When this trail is wet, it prevents people from entering the Nature Center trail system, limiting use of this Clarence natural resource.
- Tree planting follow up. Council will reach out to Osman Farooq to see if his group would like to do a stewardship activity with the newly planted trees at the Clarence Highway Dept. This might include watering, weed mats and other maintenance.
 - Ron suggested we somehow get involved with local Homeowners Associations who might be interested in planting trees to replace dead ash trees in their communities. The Council liked this idea, but we would need someone to take the lead and reach out to HOAs and coordinate with them.
 - Chick suggested we could encourage citizens to plant a tree. We could start a pledge to plant a tree campaign. This is a good idea, but would need someone to take leadership on it. It would need lots of advertising.
- Trail marking June 14th at CNC planned with Clarence Citizenship Club. June 14th Sunday at 1PM (CNC). Reservation? Trails and Tree tubes, trimming. Need to move tree tube supplies to shed and will tidy up the tree planting site.

New business

- Open House 2027 Date possibly moved to June 2027—discussion
 - Council members mentioned it was nice to observe Arbor Day and asked whether we could celebrate Earth Day instead. However, Earth Day and Arbor days are both in late April. The weather has been hit and miss in April, and we had a cold rain in 2026. There was no consensus or motion to move the date.
- Town Code Draft relating to CCAC (see attached relevant to CCAC)—discussion
 - A draft of the town code was produced by a consultant group that contains 4 out of 5 things that the Council does not currently do. The new language does not include a tree ordinance or tree board as we have previously discussed and which Council considers to be an important addition. This language is needed to get Tree City USA designation. The Town Code revision is a long process and this discussion was meant to get Council thinking about what we envision the Council to be doing. In the future, we will discuss language to include for Town Code for consideration. We discussed creating a subcommittee to hammer out language to bring back before the Council for discussion. Joel suggested we start off by looking at the old Code and defining what our Council is capable of doing. This struck all as a good place to start, though this will take multiple future meetings and discussion to get a consensus on the exact wording.
- At this point there was a discussion whether the Council is doing too much and Ron asked why the meetings do not follow Roberts Rules of Order. Steve mentioned that we vote as a Council on all items such as budget and other decisions. Ron complained that the agenda is too long and detailed and almost impossible to cover in an hour. Joel pointed out that most of the agenda was just updates and not new business, and didn't require a lot of discussion (or voting). Bob and Ron

feel that the Council is doing too much and that there is too much of a time burden on Steve and Cheryl. Bob and Ron suggested that there should be additional clerical support for the Council such as a secretary. The discussion ended with a sense that the agendas could perhaps be simpler to allow time for more discussion on new business.

- Correspondence (From Lindbergs to Council; see attached). There was agreement that deer are a problem in the Town and Bob said that the Town was already doing all it could and that this was a NYS DEC matter. Feeding deer is unlawful and under DEC jurisdiction. It was suggested that we could address these points in a response letter, and Steve asked if anyone would like to take it on, but no one offered to do so. Steve suggested it was important to respond, as this is the type of conservation matter that the Council is concerned with, and involves citizens reaching out for help or clarification.
- There was a motion to adjourn with a second, so the meeting was adjourned at 8:16PM.

Next Meeting: 7PM, Thursday July 9 at the Clarence Nature Center

Beginning Balance	\$3252.67
Expenses:	
Crab Apple trees	\$112.00
Open House Supplies	\$35.35
Talk on the Wildside presentation (Hawk Creek)	\$300.00
Crayons	\$39.98
CCAC Brochure	\$263.60
Plaque for Eagle Scout Project	\$70.00
Presentation Mark Carra	\$100.00
Tree Tape Measurer Adjustment	\$2.80
CW Native Plant Farm Presentation	\$100.00
Hydrogel	\$12.49
 TOTAL EXPENSES	 \$1036.22
 BALANCE	 \$2216.45
YTD Expenses	\$1283.55