

**Conservation Advisory Council, Town of New Lebanon**  
**Minutes for monthly meeting**  
**July 7, 2025**

**Present:** CAC members: Bob Gilson, Donald Lamonaca, Peg Munves, Bill O'Neill, Steve Powers, Bruce Shenker. Guests: Joanne Amlaw, JoAnna Phillips

The meeting was called to order at 5:02P.M. The June minutes were approved as presented.

**Wastewater Feasibility Study:** Josh and Peg will update the BEDC at 6:00 pm. An update on the report is imminent. They have been doing an income survey to understand what funding is available. Property and business owners have to understand the financial impact of the project. The deadline for the funding application is September 12.

**Water Source Protection Plan:** Water testing continues. The CAC needs more funding to continue the project. Donald will research funding sources.

**County-wide Conservation Plan:** People are concerned about open land, farms, and water. The Columbia County Land Conservancy has lots of useful information.

**Streambed Erosion:** Bob looked for funding sources to pay for streambed erosion mitigation in Shatford Park. The project is too small for the DEC. They suggested looking for funding through the parks department.

**Trees for Tribs:** The trees are looking good. One tree has fallen over. Bruce and Peg regularly go and fix things.

**Open Space Inventory:** Bob said he found a funding opportunity from the Hudson River Estuary Program. The Town would have to match between 15 – 30%. But part of that could be in-kind services. The CAC will ask for permission to proceed from the Town Board.

**Summer Camp:** The CAC is sponsoring a raptor presentation for the campers presented by the Sharon, Connecticut Audubon Society on July 25.

**Landfill Project:** Steve said that the purchase of the land is complete, and the project should be completed by the end of the year. Regular water testing is mandated by the DEC.

**Tilden Project:** Peg is seeking advice from the town engineer. She is not foreseeing any environmental problems. They have done a good job with the engineering. The only concern might be the aquifer.

**New Member Search:** We need new members!

**Climate Smart Communities:** The LVPA water tank has been reburied. We have recycled 1035 pound of plastic bags. Steve is working on getting a new EV charger for the Community Center. There are two Zoning Rewrite meetings on July 26 & 30 to discuss creating a new Shaker Preservation District.

**Shaker Swamp:** Bruce is leading a tour of the Shaker Swamp on Sunday, July 10.

The next CAC Meeting is scheduled for August 11 at 5:00 pm at the Town Hall. The meeting adjourned at 5:46 P.M.

*Respectfully submitted by Robert Gilson*