



Climate Smart Communities

MINUTES
CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE
January 17, 2018
7:00 PM

Attendees: Greg Vogler, Connie Mondel, Jere Wrightsman, Tim Stalker, Chris Schober and Barbara Smith

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

1. Feedback on previous meeting with Robyn Reynolds, CDRPC

Feedback by all was positive. Everyone thought Robyn Reynolds was bright, knowledgeable and will be a good resource.

2. Status of Current Initiatives

a. Electric Vehicle Charging Station (Greg)

- i. Greg reported on the status of the DEC grant application. Greg has been meeting with Robyn Reynolds and Rob Lagonia. Another work session between Greg and Robyn is scheduled for Tuesday January 23. Greg is hoping to submit the grant application by the end of January.

b. LED Street Lighting (Chris)

- i. Chris has been in contact with Mid- Hudson Street Lighting Consortium. Chris asked about joining the consortium so long as it was no cost and did not obligate the town to anything. Chris reported there are at least the ten minimally required street lights to join. Tim Stalker suggested contacting NYSEG to ask them for a report of how many street lights they officially provide electricity to for the town, and possibly on behalf of the state.
- c. Inventory (Jere)
 - i. Jere reported on software that is available to document energy use. The focus is on buildings. All agreed that beginning the inventory process would be good, but to hold off on any official energy assessment until the new town hall is constructed, and possibly a new town salt shed.
- d. Agriculture (Maureen)
 - i. Maureen could not make the meeting but reported, in part: “I have done a little bit of research on farming in our area online. Have reached out to Robyn but we have not connected yet. Looking to see what others have done in this area.
Also trying to connect with our Tax Assessor Pam Cook to see what I can get about what we actually have for farms.”
- e. Unified Solar Permit (Connie)
 - i. Connie reported on the research she has been doing about solar photovoltaic cells. A discussion ensued about the permit process in Austerlitz for new solar installations and whether the Unified Solar Permit is worth adopting, possible with modifications, by the town. More to come.

3. New Business

a. Comprehensive Plan

- i. Tim Stalker said the CPOC will look into whether modifications to the town's Comprehensive Plan are worth considering. The plan hasn't been updated since 2004 and does not directly address goals of reducing greenhouse gasses although Barbara Smith noted that the plan does talk about how environmental issues are important to the people of the town.

- b. Officially Noticed Meeting: The next Meeting will be Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm