

**Austerlitz Climate Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 9, 2022**

Present

Kathryn Beilke
Haley Balcanoff
Jere Wrightsman
Chris Schober
Tim Stalker
Paige Ruane

Minutes

- 10/19/22 Minutes approved
- Committee will review guidelines JW raised, that KB will send, to consider adopting as best practice
- Draft of RSF grant request letter & resolution to apply will be presented to Town Board
- Will vote on adopting best practices at next meeting

Process Notes

- JW & KB brought attention to helpful guidelines that aid in supporting productive, respectful group dialogue and effectiveness
- Discussion of [Best Practices](#) and how to best communicate w/Sue Haag and Board with ample time for them to post, read & absorb materials before board meetings/deadlines
- The Task force is re-visioning the riparian project for the spring with Helia Native Nursery as a possible option.
- Scout/RSF Grant request letter
 - 5k NYSEDA grant can be used toward RSF grant match
 - There is left an estimated \$4500 to potentially apply to match
 - Edits to RSF request letter discussed
 - Will send to Board:
 - Copy of latest draft of request letter
 - JW will create a model resolution
 - Sustainability Fund spreadsheet
- Comp Plan
 - JW reported on 11/5 meeting
 - Sent climate committee materials & accomplishments to comp plan committee
 - Let's inform Nan that the Town is pursuing a Climate Vulnerability Assessment
 - Send materials as a supplement to Jere's initial conversation
 - Task force to create a refined document of resources/recommendations collected from other towns & Haley
- Updating CSC actions
 - Update the resolution passed to appoint DeeAnn (by January latest for submission) to appointment Kathryn (it is currently expired)
 - HB will check w/DEC about that being lapsed
 - Can prepare resolution for December Board meeting.
 - Need to determine efficiency of certain appliances
 - heat pumps have been accounted for
 - Need details on *water*—gallons per minute
 - And *lights*— what kind of bulbs?-- look in binder in closet

- Info provided for each category brings 3 CSC points
- Town Garage Energy Audit
 - Garage already very efficient
 - LEDs were suggested
 - Replacement of boiler recommended when it's old
 - HB suggested writing up a report on experience for her to advocate to get \$ returned
 - If Highway Garage needs are not great, History Center could use a heat pump
- KB re-did annual benchmarking for 2021 based on an updated portfolio manager with more comprehensive data - it shows significant GHG reduction. It is now publicly available on the town website. Due to the reductions, it should lead us to re-submit the PE12 action in CSC
- CAP
 - HB: Just a guide, not beholden to following
 - KB & HB will bring a draft to December meeting for presentation
- CS will assist JW as co-climate committee chair

[Accounting for CSC grants and funds](#)

Next Climate Committee meeting is **Wednesday, December 7th at 7pm, Town Hall (second Wednesdays of the month)**

Next Comprehensive Planning meeting is **Thursday December 8th at 6:30, Town Hall**

Town Board Meeting is **November 22nd at 7pm, Town Hall**

To Review Before Next Meeting:

- Best Practices

For Town Board:

- Scout Fund letter, Resolution & 1 page report to town