

Minutes of Climate Smart Meeting Monday Jan 9, 2023, 6:00 PM

Attendance: Katy Cashen (zoom), Katy Flammia, Tom Helling, Sarah Katan, Jeff Kiplinger, Victoria Masters (Zoom), Brenda Schufelt, Julie Shevach.

Acting chair, Jeff Kiplinger opened the meeting at 6:05 PM.

The minutes for December 2 meeting were accepted as distributed.

Tom Helling briefly Reviewed progress on CAP:

- CAP planning group met internally to create a CAP draft to identify focus areas, goals, and potential action items.
- Met with Haley Balcanoff (Climate Smart Communities Coordinator) on January 4th to review CAP draft goals and actions.
- Uploaded completed LED street light calculator spreadsheet to NYSERDA portal for points toward Bronze certification, with Katy Cashen's help.
- Elizabeth is working with Haley and the Town Clerk to get updated emissions data for the GHG Inventory/CAP.
- Discussed Town Hall planning and how it relates to CAP:• A new town hall that meets future NYS building certification standards is one of the CAP goals in the "Built Environment" focus area.
- Tom indicated that the CAP group would begin developing a more concrete plan when the town's updated emissions Inventory data are available.

Katy Flammia showed her slide deck about green buildings, and there was discussion around the desirability from a CS perspective of even building a new town hall. Katy suggested that an existing building such as the a firehouse could serve as a town hall, and whether renovated for lower energy use or not this would be a greener alternative than building a new town hall.

Sarah gave a broad overview of the plan for the Dec/Jan newsletter, noting that she had not yet received any articles to review. Articles and authors were confirmed. Discussion continued into new topics to add to the newsletter on top of those already being used that would create a throughline between newsletters. Ideas included achievements, CAP and gardening/land stewardship. The reach of the newsletter was also discussed including the use of IMBY. Sarah and Vic will look into creating an account for Climate Smart Claverack so articles can be published there as well with the hope of the newsletter gaining more readership. Finally, the use of flyers to promote our meetings/events and increase our volunteer base was brought up. Locations for flyers included the libraries, post office, Morning Star Farm and Hawthorn Valley public board.

Social media discussion was minimal, as agreed we do not yet have a plan or budget. However, the group agreed that it should not be necessary to develop new content for social posts – reposting other articles or news items including those in our own newsletter should be enough.

Brenda is tracking developments on opportunities re. the Mellenville site, especially concerning historical preservation. The Town Board is still in discussion of what to build/tear down and where, so the town's future direction on this issue is unresolved at this point. It's unclear how the CSC can contribute at this time.

Grants and the process by which the town might apply for them were discussed only briefly pending development of the CAP.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 7 PM.

Minutes compiled from participants.