

## Minutes for Climate Smart Meeting Monday Feb 13, 2023, 6:00 PM

The February Claverack Climate Smart meeting was called to order at 6:00 on Monday, Feb 13, 2023 at the Claverack Free Library Board Room.

Attendance: John Bradley(TF), Toba Duggan, Bob Duggan, Katy Flammia, Sarah Katan (TF), Jeff Kiplinger (TF), Vic Masters (TF), Brenda Shufelt, (TF) (a quorum of the TF was present).

- Minutes of Jan 9 Meeting were approved as distributed.
- It was reported that Tom Helling and Julia Shevach are traveling and expect to have an updated Climate Action Plan draft for the March meeting from CAP and Certification Work Group.
- The TB's Town Hall planning and the status of the Mellenville site was discussed. John explained that the preliminary investigation on the subprojects, the community feedback, and the overall 'visioning' for the site was valuable information that can be used for planning purposes by the TB or a planning committee when interest materializes. It was noted that if another party were to implement some of this vision, the town would collect certification points for those actions that the CSC is involved in. John also reported that he had received a phone call from a developer interested in the hydropower component. The NYS Green Bank with several billions of capitalization is interested in helping to finance micro hydro projects in the state.
- Media Team (Victoria and Sarah) :
  - Vic reported on the Dec/Jan newsletter stats, noting that the numbers of opens, views and subscribers are all increasing steadily. Engagement is definitely there.
  - Sarah clarified topics and authors for the upcoming Feb/March newsletter. The deadline for article drafts is March 3rd.
  - There was a discussion about a panel discussion that Katy F. is organizing on May 27 on the Tallamy Homegrown National Park. Sarah brought up the idea to host an open house so that more residents can know what we are doing and we can hear from residents about what their sustainable goals are. Another goal would be to get more volunteers involved with CSC. Committee members voiced interest in merging those two events into one but no decision was made.
- Katy and Jeff reported on the Jan 14 event at the Taghkanic Fire Hall where the Taghkanic CSC showed the Nature's Best Hope Video by noted entomologist Doug Tallamy. 80-90 people attended the showing and discussion led by Peter Paden.
- Katy F and Sarah briefly discussed the new Sustainable Gardening and Land Stewardship section on the CSC Web site.
- John briefly explained the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Planning is initiated through the County CSC TF and led by Cornell Coop Ext. staff. This DEC funded project is being concept tested with Columbia County and was launched in Jan, with implementation through 2023 and includes all CSCs in the County; Various aspects of

the project will engage CSC volunteers and others in the community. More will be reported as the project unfolds.

- County Climate Smart Task Force met on Feb 2 . In addition to the Adaptation and Resilience project, there was lengthy discussion planning for Fast Charging stations in the County. Fast charging capability will be installed at the County Airport to service a medical helicopter and some public EV stations.
- The Community Campaign for Heat Pumps (like solarize w grants) was explained briefly and it was noted that Philmont and Taghkanic CSCs invited us to work on this project together.
- There was no other Business.

The meeting was adjourned at before 7:30  
Minutes by John Bradley and participants.