



Climate Smart Community Task Force

Meeting Notes January 21, 2021;

5:30–6:45pm Via Zoom

Present: Kathy Chow, Jennifer Dowley, Matt Hartzog, Chris Kennan, Rhiannon Leo-Jameson, Claire Owens, Tom Parrett, Elliott Ramos, Andrew Stayman, Rich Stalzer.

Absent: Laurie Kerr

The minutes of 12_17_20 were approved.

Chow stated that we have achieved 44 points for submitting several completed projects to DEC. They included Complete Streets for the Town, our Social media work as well as general organizational actions.

Chow has been accepted as one of 6 CSC Coordinators to join a pilot program called Local Champions funded by the New World Foundation. It's an intense training program beginning on Feb 2nd and is intended to get all 6 CSC communities to Bronze status by August. She is foregoing the \$8000 fee and it go to a Climate Smart account with Townscape for the exclusive use of CSC projects. Jennifer issued a press release.

Jennifer explained that she is focusing on achieving 4 action items within NYSERDA's Clean Energy Community initiative in order to qualify for soon to be made available grant dollars.

Unified Solar Permit – tabled until next month

Community Choice Aggregation – Tom explained the effort to create an opt-out program whereby the Town and/or Village would agree to be part of an aggregation of communities to purchase 100% of their electrical needs from renewable sources. Rate would be cheaper than the current Central Hudson source and be secured for 2 years. Central Hudson would continue its present role of delivery and maintenance. Tom and Jennifer will research further.

Village Street Lights- conversion to LED. Laurie and Jennifer securing 2 proposals: Central Hudson and New York Power Authority.

Energy Code Training – NYSERDA to resume this spring for Ken and Mike in building dept.

Solar for All Campaign – Jennifer & Andrew to explore

Benchmarking – Andrew & Jennifer to explore

Highway Garage – Laurie met with the engineers (CPL) to pursue green strategies. RFP for construction of the main garage building will be issued in the coming month(s) to take advantage of winter booking cycles and low interest rates.

Eddie Collins – Laurie presented a series of green suggestions to Chazen to consider in its design work.

PE9 Website – Rich and Tom are building the website with 3 users in mind: Individuals & families; businesses & institutions; local & state government. They ask those who are writing to get the material to them soon. The site will go live in early April - before Earth Day.

PE9 Social Media – Rhiannon is coordinating the search for photographers. A few have responded through social media. The more the better. Instagram is going well; Facebook, less so.

PE9.2 Earth Day – Jennifer outlined a series of activities and partners including Oblong, Library, NECC, McEnroe's, Millerton Business Alliance, Buddhi Tribe. Claire reported that several farms she's contacted for farm tours on the 24th are game. Chris stated that the Eastern Dutchess Running Club may indeed organize a run on the new rail trail. Suggestions were made to contact the Moviehouse for a film, organize a lecture/panel discussion. All plans must be in place by March 1st. Ed Herrington sent a check for \$1000 for Earth Day purposes.

With approval from all, Jennifer will contact Webutuck to see if a High School student in the sciences would be interested in joining our meetings.

Meeting adjourned: 6:45

Next meeting: Thursday, February 18, 2021 5:30-6:30



Climate Smart Community Task Force

Meeting Notes February 18, 2021;

5:30–6:45pm Via Zoom

Present: Kathy Chow, Jennifer Dowley, Matt Hartzog, Chris Kennan, Laurie Kerr, Rhiannon Leo-Jameson, Claire Owens, Tom Parrett, Elliott Ramos, Andrew Stayman, Rich Stalzer, Chris Virtuoso.

Guests: Michelle Gluck, Cornell Extension Service; Patrick McKeever, lead Science teacher at Webutuck; Carrissa Whitehead and Paris Villalva, Webutuck students.

The minutes of 1_21_21 were approved.

Chow introduced Michelle Gluck from the Cornell Extension Service who will help us review all the Climate Smart Actions and help us make a plan for accomplishing the most relevant and realistic of them over the coming years with an eye to achieving bronze level by August. Michelle shared an extensive spread sheet that she will use over the next 5 months to make her final prioritized assessment report.

The next step is an in-depth review meeting with town and village stakeholders. She is working with us as part of Chow's engagement with the Champion's Program.

Jennifer reported that the EV Charging Station's contract will be sent to the Village soon and work begun on its installation on Century Blvd.

Chow mentioned the HVA meeting to review their upcoming Tenmile River Watershed report. The meeting was well attended. Partnerships are possible with Amenia, Dover, and Pawling. County Brad Barclay is very supportive.

PE9 Website: Tom asked that all copy be completed by March 1st. April 2nd is the deadline for the launching of the website with a live link on both the Village and Town's website. Matt and Chris will forward instructions to the necessary web administrators. Rich reported that the construction of the site is going well. We just need the content. Chris K is willing to write.

PE9 Social Media: Rhiannon reported that 209 people saw the post about the EV Charging station coming to town. Traffic is much higher for specific local announcements than for general climate change articles.

PE9.2 Earth Day – Jennifer stated that everything is firming up. March 1st deadline. Main Street magazine will give us a one-page article. Claire stated that she has several farms set up for tours. They are clustered in general neighborhoods for two time slots Saturday afternoon. Chris Virtuoso is working with North East Ford to see if an exhibition of EVs is possible – maybe at the site of the proposed EV Charging station. We have \$1000 to spend on a poster/flyer and some

advertising. Patrick stated that he'd be happy to share information about Earth Day with Webutuck families and that some of his students will be joining NECC's teams.

Earth Day PR launch plan will include: Newspaper and Main Street articles and ads, website, social media, posters, shop signs, and town and village calendar announcements. Jennifer and Chris V to discuss.

CEC Update: Chris K stated that the Unified Solar Permit will go on the Town Board's agenda for its March meeting. Laurie expressed interest in working on Benchmarking with Andrew. Village Street lights are still in the works. Laurie and Jennifer working with NYPA. The Village's bank is SBT – possible source of lower interest loan than what NYPA offers.

Eliot will contact Mary Lynn to help with the Pollinator Garden.

Rhiannon will look up the vendor and price of the bench she got for the library. (guessed it was \$700-ish)

Chow introduced and welcomed Patrick, Carissa and Paris from Webutuck to our work.

Meeting adjourned: 6:45

Next meeting: Thursday, March 18, 2021 5:30-6:30

Prior to the meeting Chow shared in a Jan 30 email:

We got word that our EV Charger grant will come through (special thank you to ANDREW - you worked hard on this).

We also heard from the DEC OCC that our ORIGINAL CSC Contract / Grant (applied for in 2018 with help from HVA) is going forward. That is the big matching grant that will help pay Housatonic Valley Association for the (nearly done) Road Stream Crossings work and for the Review of Policies and Procedures. It also includes the GHG Inventory work - not yet begun.

The website committee (Tom, Rich, Chow) updated the CSC logo with an oak leaf.



Climate Smart Community Task Force

Meeting Notes March 18, 2021;

5:30–6:30pm Via Zoom

Present: Kathy Chow, Chris Kennan, Laurie Kerr, Rhiannon Leo-Jameson, Tom Parrett, Eliot Ramos, Andrew Stayman, Rich Stalzer, Patrick McKeever, Carrissa Whitehead.

Absent: Jennifer Dowley, Matt Hartzog, Claire Owens, Chris Virtuoso, Paris Villalva

Guest: Michelle Gluck, Cornell Extension

The minutes of 2_18_21 were approved.

Social Media - Rhiannon gave a report on which social Media posts are viewed the most:
FB: Photo volunteers, Road Stream Crossings, charging stations, GM goes electric, Food Waste
Instagram: Sharpen Garden Tools, EV charger, Native Plant Finder, bulk trash day, Atlantic currents. Some users even bookmarked Native Plant Finder.

Local stories, local people & faces are always popular.

Chow's Local Champs colleague identified two different "voices": Traditionalists: "I like it the way it is / save me money" and Progressives: "Go green make / it happen". Rhiannon agreed. FB is an older user.

Reminder to Send posts to Rhiannon

Eliot: Pollinator Garden - March 30 at 9AM is spring launch / volunteers & plants wanted. Rhiannon will post that.

Andrew: EV Charging Station – in process; it's OK to use Rob Cooper. Permit is needed. There is a fee.

Chow: CSC Assessment update - Had 2 meetings with Michelle Gluck of Cornell. Attended by Chris, Matt, Debbie Middlebrook, George Kaye, Edie Greenwood, Jennifer, Andrew, Laurie

Michelle: new County Organics Composting initiative

Discussion meeting next week - Michelle Gluck will add interested members to Listserve. McEnroe is welcome. (They didn't accept residential a couple years ago when last contacted.) Chow will reach out to Erich McEnroe.

There is a new law about large scale (hospital size) requirements that goes into effect in 2022: NYS Food Waste Reduction Law [https:// www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/114499.html](https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/114499.html)

Chris asked about yard waste v food scraps. Michelle said it's BOTH

Eliot mentioned last years trial and village yard waste pick up. Chris wants to do it somehow; but new garage site is tight for that. Pipe dream would be a couple more acres for a transfer station.

Laurie: NYSERDA CEC

Unified Solar Permit passed! Ready to submit ☺

Benchmarking in process with Andrew. Going smoothly

LED streetlights - slow going

Laurie is looking into NY Stretch - it's a maybe for us

Chow: CSC Submissions - Deadline is April 2. It's unclear IF we can submit but 2 are ready to go: Unified Solar Permit and Website

Road Stream Crossings – The survey is done but additional steps are needed to satisfy action requirements for CSC and our DEC grant. HVA will help - there will be a mtg. next week with Michelle to review. **Reminder to follow instructions carefully DURING the process.**

Village Actions are not ready, need set-up paperwork first

DEC OCC grant. Now have missing insurance updated - should move along quickly

Tom: Website Intro: Tom reviewed the origin and purpose of the new site. All local, change behavior. Climate change is a global issue.

Articles have been written by from Andrew, Chris, Eliot, Rhiannon photo editor, Launch April 1.

Rich: Website demo

Showed Homepage, menus & navigation, sample pages, extensive content.

Earth Day site, event calendar & map. QR code links to that page.

Looking for testers - especially on different machines / browsers. Andrew, Rhiannon, will test.

Chow: Earth Day: showed Main St ad

Asked all to check latest (final) schedule

There will be a Main St article and Ad

Rhiannon will do SM / w Claire

Jennifer will coordinate partner email listings

Andrew will distribute Posters and Flyers

Eliot will drop off flyers at Dutchess Tourism Poughkeepsie office

Chris: Concerned about big events in the village. Parking is problem.

BUT There hasn't been a Rail Trail North ribbon cutting yet. Chris wants to Invite the County Exec. and have a low-key Rail Trail opening. Bring attention to the opening.

Need volunteers to man a CSC table for Earth Day.

COMMENTS

Andrew - can any Dutchess COVID funding available? Chris said most goes to water: culverts & wastewater.

Eliot - Should we encourage parking at the supermarket? Chris will ask Bob Trotta

Tom - RT bridge exhibit: State is reviewing text - will need (state) RFP for design firm. Chris explained that it's complicated: town, county, state all have to weigh in on RT. Chris working on parking at 3 north crossings - eg Whithouse Crossing.

Laurie - asked about bike stands in village. Ped plan and Complete Streets mention it.

Michelle Gluck suggested a new PE6 Action: Planning & Infrastructure for Bicycling & Walking
<https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/75>

Meeting adjourned: 6:30

Next meeting: Thursday, April 15, 2021 5:30-6:30



Climate Smart Community Task Force

Meeting Notes April 15, 2021.

5:30–6:30pm Via Zoom

Present: Kathy Chow, Jennifer Dowley, Chris Kennan, Laurie Kerr, Rhiannon Leo-Jameson, Claire Owens, Tom Parrett, Andrew Stayman, Rich Stalzer, Carrissa Whitehead, Michelle Gluck

Absent: Matt Hartzog, Elliott Ramos, Chris Virtuoso

The minutes of 3_18_2021 were approved.

Chris expressed enthusiastic appreciation for the power point that Chow presented to the Town Board on April 8th explaining CSC.

Earth Day: April 24th

Jennifer reported that 20 posters were distributed by Andrew and Chris V to Village area stores April 2-3. 500 flyers with details of the schedule have been printed and will be distributed to merchants this weekend. We will have a table at the Farmers Market 10am – 2pm and welcome volunteers to help. Ad is in Main Street & M News. Main St is doing boost stories on McEnroe's, North East Ford and a farm (TBD). M News will do a story and an editorial next week. Rhiannon is running into problems advertising anything that includes the words: Climate Change. Facebook considers that a political ad. Claire will help her deal with that. Instagram and Facebook ads are planned over the course of the week announcing each event. The Webutuck Honor Students are a last-minute addition as is the Moviehouse's virtual cinema showing "The Race to Save the World". Marc Molinaro & Greg Pulver will officially open the Rail Trail on Thursday the 22nd at 11am.

Clean Energy Community work w NYSERDA

Unified Solar Permit – has been uploaded 😊

Benchmarking - Laurie & Andrew have finished the preliminary work. Chris K plans to take the Resolution to the Town Board on May 13. Everything will be able to be uploaded to the CEC site and it aligns with PE3 for CSC work. The Town website will list all the completed CSC and CEC actions and link to climatesmartmillerton.org that will have details & documents pertinent to each action.

Village Street Lights - conversion to LED. Laurie and Jennifer securing 2 proposals: Central Hudson and New York Power Authority. Laurie has done a terrific power point that is being reviewed by NYPA in preparation to showing to the Village.

CSC Projects

Charging Station – Suzanne Bressler, Deputy Village Clerk and Jennifer are scheduled to meet with John Wimbush soon to get the project started.

Village resolutions – the Village will review a resolution on Monday night to appoint a CSC Task Force and request the Mayor to appoint Chow as Coordinator, enabling us to log points for the Village's work.

Unified Solar Permit WAS submitted to CSC but Michelle Gluck explained that the tally is only a tracker. Doesn't mean that the action has been approved - Chow will check W/ Michelle about the PE1 Action: Partnership and add Michelle as add her as a user so she can review submissions

Website – The site launched on April 1st. Tom stated that we need no more writers at the moment. Rich made a report of the users. 184 unique users right around the time the posters went up in early April. The average time on the site is 3.5 minutes. Most are visiting the Earth Day section. Great start!

Social Media – Rhiannon reported 110 Instagram users / 158 individuals and 29 Facebook users but reaching 294 through FB sharing. 112 engagements. She recommends we all log on and share the posts. Website announcement was the most popular post

Pollinator Garden – no report.

Bulk Trash Day – Chris K suggested that it be held on June 12 in order to collect hazardous trash and bring it to the County on June 19th. Chow and another volunteer - TBD - will sign up for a spot in Poughkeepsie once registration opens on May 19th.

Chow will put pressure on Welsh to give us a tour of the Wingdale station in advance of bulk trash day.

County Composting – Michelle Gluck discussed a Dutchess County meeting regarding composting and how to respond to a law to take effect in Jan '22 that mandates reduction in food waste. McEnroe's Matt Hamm took part in this call. Recording will be available. Carrie Russell said the county will be doing feasibility

Subjects to look into:

Summer Interns

Chris has a possibility for a part time intern - e.g. for 6 weeks.
Carrissa will talk to Student Council, National Honor Society, and Class
Carrissa - is interested in something outside e.g. tree planting

Pollinator gardens

Andrew - advocates a stop mowing campaign, plant natives -
E.g. group of interested teens can demo the front yard of town hall / plant natives - then move onto neighboring house lots / other sites
Tom - there are sites on the rail trail
Rhiannon - 2 garden beds behind Library are available

Recycling projects

Rhiannon - tap Wassaic Project and do a found art project display along rail trail?
Izzy works with teens often.

Repair Café

Tom & Andrew will explore - and loop in Rich?
Rhiannon has the book by founder John Wackman
Need location, skills, outreach. It's done through Repair Café.
Chow can post on CAC Listserv & show off Local Champs slides

OK to use library annex Rhiannon. Or Outdoors. .

Chris - very labor intensive. Rhinebeck did it 5-ish years ago

Tom - should be outdoors e.g. Pavilion at Eddie Collins. In the fall. Different weekends for different skills - household goods & sewing on one weekend, electrical on another.

Can be really messy, oil, rolling carts.....

Michelle gave resources: www.repaircafehv.org as well as lauriehusted@gmail.com, Chair of Red Hook CAC.

Chow announced that the **State DEC contract was finally signed by Chris on March 19, 2021.**

This is a major threshold - we now need to track in-kind time for grant matched projects - specifically GHG and CAP.

Tracking Time – Andrew and Laurie and anyone else involved with benchmarking (Jennifer and Lorna) need to keep track of their time for all the work done on benchmarking after March 19, 2021. It should apply to GHG inventory as well as Benchmarking.

Clockify is a popular timekeeper app. Andrew will get the app.

Road Stream Crossings – Chow & Chris will meet with HVA to finalize its work on this action.

Good chance there are other HVA Watershed initiatives that might apply to CSC actions too.

Submitting Actions

Chow - actions are getting completed and are ready to submit for points. Andrew for Benchmarking, and Rich for the website are doing this now. Reminder to read the requirements carefully. Showed screenshot of the submission interface - it calls for a description that addresses the requirements and has a space file uploads. CEC is similar.

Michelle explained For CSC PE3 Action Benchmarking for Gov't Buildings, upload the CEC submission with screenshot of CEC public portal for CSC points.

Meeting adjourned: 6:45

Next meeting: Thursday, May 20, 2021 5:30-6:30



Climate Smart Community Task Force

Meeting Notes May 20, 2021.

5:30–6:30pm Via Zoom & in-Person at Town Hall

Present: Kathy Chow, Jennifer Dowley, Matt Hartzog, Chris Kennan, Laurie Kerr, Rhiannon Leo-Jameson, Elliott Ramos, Andrew Stayman, Rich Stalzer, Chris Virtuoso, Carrissa Whitehead.

Absent: Claire Owens, Tom Parrett

Guest: Emma Benardete

The minutes of 4_15_2021 were approved.

Millerton Earth Day 2021

Jennifer surveyed the partners who participated, and most are interested in continuing in future years. Farm tours less successful. No visitors to McEnroe's composting facility or Moonwake yoga session. Antique stores, the Dig, Oblong, the library all reported brisk business. The wine shop, not much. No data from the Moviehouse. Suggestions for 2022: hold event over the weekend – April 22, 24. Appoint a committee to begin work in the fall. Centralize activities on Main Street. Century Blvd not visited. Deepen educational component and connection to CSC

Website

Rich reported updating the website by moving Earth Day section off front page. Instagram/FaceBook posts about EVs will link to the relevant section of website. Asked members to share your social media networks with ours.

Social Media: Rhiannon reported. Facebook: we had 681 post reactions. 389 of which were from one post about our table during Earth Day with pictures of the group. Instagram followed along the same lines 166 people reached most coming from our Earth Day posts.

CSC Projects

Michelle Gluck was unable to attend but will send Chow priorities. Chow committed to uploading everything by July 2nd so we can get to bronze this fall! It appears that NYS uses CSC certification (bronze) as an eligibility criterion for other grants.

Town: the RFP for the Greenhouse Gas Inventory has been posted: ads in the M News, Poughkeepsie Journal. It has also been posted on a NYS website as well as to a list of NYSERDA approved consultants.

Village: Tom and Andrew will get the language for the sign to be hung on the fence for the Village's solar array to Debbie for the Village Board's approval. Also, someone needs to check with Cole on repairs to the solar panels.

CEC Projects

Town: Benchmarking - Andrew reported on this project. The Resolution will go to the Town Board for approval on June 10th.

Village: LED Streetlights – Laurie reported that she is pursuing 2 good options for transitioning existing sodium vapor streetlights to LED that will both save the Village money and provide better lighting through control nodes.

EV Charging Station: Andrew reported that Rob Cooper will help with installation. Location will move slightly to the front of the H&R Block building to stay clear of the new stations to be installed by the Millerton Inn.

Visit to Welsh: will be arranged by Andrew for himself, Eliot, Rhiannon, and Chow.

Bulk Trash: June 12 at South Center Street Garage. It will include the usual along with electronics to be taken to the County's Hazardous Waste Collection point on the 19th. Publicity will focus on social media. Helpers: Chow, Chris K, Rich, Rhiannon, George K & possibly John Midwood.

Meeting adjourned: 6:30

Next meeting: Thursday, June 17, 2021 5:30-6:30



Climate Smart Community Task Force

Meeting Notes June 17, 2021.

5:30–6:30pm in-Person at Town Hall

Present: Kathy Chow, Jennifer Dowley, Chris Kennan, Laurie Kerr, Rhiannon Leo-Jameson, Elliot Ramos, Andrew Stayman, Rich Stalzer, Chris Virtuoso

Absent: Matt Hartzog, Claire Owens, Tom Parrett, Carrissa Whitehead

The minutes of 5_20_2021 were approved.

The group approved of meeting in person for the summer months. Jennifer suggested adding Griffin Cooper to the group.

Chow congratulated Laurie for being voted onto the Village board.

A discussion followed about recycling election lawn signs for CSC events.

Bulk Trash day, part of our public education effort, was a success. Great volunteer support. Andrew reported that people learned about it via Instagram, the Supervisors eblast and WOM emails. Next time: prepare a longer timeline - we missed deadlines to announce through the Village's monthly water bill mailing and newspaper.

CSC Projects

Next CSC submission cycle is January 7, 2022. Reviews are twice yearly and only if submit with more than 120 points. We'll prepare for January.

Rhiannon reported on completing the Complete Streets plan. Ideas: A solar powered cross walk will be installed at the Rail Trail crossing over Bielke Road. Make a map of safe bike routes through the Village/Town as building a bike lane is prohibitively expensive and cyclists don't trust them anyway. Eleanor Peck, our contact at Hudson Valley Regional Council, has agreed to review all our work pre submittal. She gave significant input on Complete Streets and on the Innovation Action (which we anticipated would be our HW Garage move). Her comments tipped the scales that led to our decision to delay going for bronze in July.

Chow will distribute Task Force instructions for submission components for each action item that will be housed in the Dropbox.

Chow reported that she and Chris Kennan are meeting with Tighe & Bond to review the assessment on CSC actions done by Michelle Gluck and other items on the Town/Village wish list. They have 90 minutes of advice about feasibility and funding.

The RFP for Green House Gas inventory will be reissued since there was no response to the first one. September 1 will be the new due date. This will be reviewed by the Town Board on July 8

and publicized after that July 15.

Chow showed all a map of houses most vulnerable to flooding by the Webutuck Creek in the Village/Town that also is a map of our most vulnerable population. This was developed as a final part of the HVA Road Stream Crossings report after meeting with Christine Sergent of NECC and Village Trustee, Josh Schultz, and Chris.

CEC Projects

Laurie presented a power point on considerations for transitioning to LED streetlights for the Village. There are 4 options: 1) Do Nothing; 2) Pay Central Hudson to convert; 3) pay NYPA to convert and the Village take ownership of the fixtures; 4) pay RealTerm Energy to convert and the Village take ownership of the fixtures. The group recommended having a slide to indicate comparative annual costs for the options. Next step? Review with Mayor Jenn Najdek and Matt to determine how/when to propose to the Village Board.

Social Media - Rhiannon reported that our numbers are going up.

Pollinator Garden - Tuesday at 10am volunteers are needed to help. Chris V and Eliot signed up.

Meeting adjourned: 6:35

Next meeting: Thursday, July 15, 2021 5:30-6:30