



Climate Smart Community Task Force Meeting Notes January 20, 2022

5:30–6:30 pm ZOOM

Present: Kathy Chow, Griffen Cooper, Chris Virtuoso, Rich Stalzer, Andrew Stayman, Claire Owens, Carissa Whitehead, Rhiannon Leo-Jameson, Jennifer Dowley, Chris Kennan, Matthew Hartzog, Laurie Kerr, Deborah Maier, Bob Stevens, Highway Superintendent, Philip Ludvigsen, First Environment

Guests: Deborah Maier, Bob Stevens, Highway Superintendent, Philip Ludvigsen, First Environment

Absent: Tom Parrett, Eliot Ramos

Chow informed the committee that the new submission deadline for bronze is April 8, 2022. She also informed the group of the New Actions Checklist. It's a downloadable PDF from a link on the Action Portal (link at bottom of agendas) https://climatesmart.ny.gov/fileadmin/csc/documents/Action_Checklist/CSCC-ActionChecklist-12-17-2021.pdf. She previewed a new Hotlist. v4 - to be circulated.

Chow presented the committee's priorities for 2022, summarized as:

- Bronze certification
- Communications: social media, newsletter, highlight existing web articles
- Education: homeowner efficiency, business efficiency
- CSC awareness: we are a resource (businesses, residents, government)
- Waste: composting, reduce plastic
- Habitats: eco landscaping on town properties, homeowner education and inspiration, zoning, water

(Detail is listed below)

PE-9 Public Outreach, Education and Engagement - Chow showed Tom P's task list. He will follow up with assignments.

PE- 6 Infrastructure for Biking and Walking - The 2020 Biking and Walking action has now been broken into 2 separate actions - reminder to look at the current CSC Actions list. Tom is doing a next draft of the bike masterplan. Andrew is finalizing the bike map with the county. The first bike rack will be installed on Century Blvd near Post office - funded by the CEC grant, installed by the NE HW dept.

Earth Day 2022 - Chris V gave his slide presentation for Earth Day 2022 - to be held Saturday April 23 in Millerton. The international theme is "Invest in Our Planet." Activities will be Friday - Sunday with the live events on Saturday. Chris V suggests the Millerton Inn lawn. He had a quick talk with Peter S. - to be continued. It's a great show and tell space. Chris K. supported the idea of celebrating the event in April rather than May as was previously discussed. Jennifer said the MBA won't meet again until March - eliminating the possibility of a village spring festival. BYW Eddie Collins will open in July.

Chris V. emphasized the importance of raising awareness for the committee during the event. Notes from his (wow!) slide deck and discussion:

Jennifer added a 2nd goal: inspire and educate people: “what they can do” Make it a positive event.

Success is measured by involvement. Leverage local and regional partners like Cary, Oblong, library talks, rail trail, Moviehouse. Keep up the momentum. Invite food and beverage, music, partner displays, make a kids’ section, show off CSC web content; show bike routes, pollinator garden plans, composting, streetlight plans... Invite eco merch (like the beeswax wraps - she was at the Dig in 2021) and food vendors, EV’s, offer up Rain barrels, composters, LED lightbulbs.

Make the invisible visible. Selfie moments to go viral Conversion starters. Activities that happen that day - eg Plastic trash sculpture, assembled as the day goes on. Reach out to artists, schools. Posters by students. Collect emails. Contests with prizes like gift certificates to get people to come BACK to Millerton merchants. Rhiannon reported that County libraries will be involved with Earth Day - we can coordinate.

Earth Day PR will be via the standard communications plan - but the most effective is WOM.

Emphasis on Communications:

Presentations: Laurie will write an article about Electrification for the April edition of Main Street and offered to speak at the April event. Our First Earth Day speaker and first podcast!

Social Media: Rhiannon’s ideal post schedule is once a week. She suggested committee members tag CSC when they take photos related to the environment on their social media.

Social Media should be brief, fun, ephemeral. Communicate right away / how to lessen your impact. Link to articles, what you’re doing, post events

To post: task members should send photos (especially people shots of locals) and blurb to Rhiannon. climatesmartnem@gmail.com, cc. rleo@nemillertonlibrary.org.

Deborah and Andrew volunteered for the January posts.

Newsletter: Griffin and Chow introduced the idea of a newsletter as a way of communicating content with the CSC email list. CSC Email list is now 55 emails, Chris emails: 281 and now growing organically. Griffin will be editor.

First subjects: Matt - What’s happening in county & state and the Copake solar project being a good neighbor. Deborah: waste, home gardening, plastics.

Website ideas: Laurie’s Main Street article about inside storms.

Record talks, post to YouTube channel (through our Gmail account).

A ‘corner’ on our website or a page called ‘Some things to try’, with each of us offering ideas we have implemented. E.g. bar soap for dishes

Survey: Our CSC Survey needs to finish now so we can analyze. Chris will make a supervisor email which will capture a wider audience.

Matt reported Water bills go out the first week January, April, July, October

Deborah started a conversation about rail trail plowing. It's too slippery in winter / can it be plowed? Chris K: No. It's owned by NY state, maintained by the county. Village and Town DON'T maintain it. Chris wants to blow the slippery leaves. Rich: advocated skiing. The north end will never be plowed. Matt noted that the crew already works hard enough when it snows.

Additional Details from Chow "2022 Priorities" conversations with Task Force members

Social media - to be assigned at each CSC monthly meeting

Website - highlight existing content on our site / redo navigation / add podcasts, tik tok

Village website will be updated by Thorunn. New opportunity

Residents - Newsletter mailing list from website sign up

Voice of our community to gov't - senators and feds, local committees, Political parties

Community conversations / Chris will hold a pilot at Library Annex

Chris emails - great new names were generated from Covid test give away

Public education evening at Legion - subject: home efficiency.

Local Stories - highlight individuals e.g., Laurie article, 4 Bros EV Chargers, Heat pumps, surge protectors, generators, converting lawn to natives

Home efficiency brochure

SM Content with pictures, schedule posts. Backup folder of posts for anytime

Link tree is a new Instagram function

Movie screen ad

Business education: How to reduce plastic - consumption, solar

Business emissions -, GHG inventory, Hotchkiss students benchmark

Business badge of honor, laundry list of things to do, highlight in SM, sticker

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Meeting adjourned: 6:30

Next meeting: Thursday, February 17, 2022 5:30-6:30



Climate Smart Community Task Force Meeting Notes February 17, 2022

5:30–6:30 pm ZOOM

Present: Present: Laurie Kerr, Kathy Chow, Rhiannon Leo-Jameson, Andrew Stayman, Rich Stalzer, Carrissa Whitehead, Chris Virtuoso, Claire Owens, Chris Kennan, Jennifer Dowley, Tom Parrett, Eliot Ramos, Deborah Maier

Guests: Bob Stevens, Nuno Ramos, Mary Lyn Kalogeras

Absent: Matt Hartzog, Griffen Cooper

Chow welcomed Carrissa and Deborah as official Task Force members - appointed at the February TB meeting. The minutes of 12_16_2021 and 1_20_22 were approved.

Chow told the group about the excellent presentation regarding the CLCPA by Jen Metzger. It was recorded and can be viewed on the Radio Kingston Facebook page:

<https://tinyurl.com/NYSCLCPA-JenMetzger-220212> Jen Metzger's presentation slides, plus a few slides she didn't include in the hour presentation are here: <https://tinyurl.com/NYCLCPA-JMetzgerSlides-220212> A pie chart shown from the presentation noted that 32% of NY State emissions are from buildings - supporting electrification Laurie has been talking about.

Rhiannon said the library is planning a **heating system update** with geothermal. They had an efficiency audit several years ago. She asked about insulation. Chow advised a new energy audit focusing on insulation and tightening air leakage before switching to heat pumps.

Chow reminded the committee about the **submission deadline** for bronze: April 8, 2022, and to use the latest action instructions. She showed the Path to Bronze Hotlist. v4. A new column has been added of VILLAGE progress and potential. Surprise! They're pretty far along.

Time is tight - there is only one TB and TF meeting to prepare for the April town deadline.

Laurie might be able to do the green building policy and resolution in that time frame.

The Policies and Procedures action will require town board adoption.

Reminder to put actions in the drobox for uploading.

Rich reviewed **Survey responses**. Of the 101 responses so far, the most important concern was for future generations. 2/3 want help with converting to electric and heat pumps / upgrade houses. Composting, EV chargers, biodiversity, road salt were also common answers. Not many were concerned with \$\$ or risk. More analysis is coming including many write-in comments and ideas. The most referenced weather seasons were 2011 and 2020. 48 people volunteered to talk about extreme events which will inform our emergency services. There is general lack of awareness of CSC communications so we should focus on that. Respondents skewed to older age ranges. Only 1/3 were under 50. (but under 18, there were 11 students - thanks to Carrissa). Task force members need to make one last push to reach younger people. We especially need 18 - 40-year-olds. Next step is the newspaper article on Feb. 24, then Final Report. Survey results become the foundation of the PE9 Education Action.

Mary Lynn Kalogeras (CAC) had spoken about **Road Salt** at the Village and Town Board meetings. It was well received. Chris, Chow, and Bob discussed some ideas. Bob will visit with Rhinebeck as they have gear and experience with brine. Stay tuned.

Chris V reviewed work-in-progress **Plans for Earth Day**. Jennifer, Deborah, and Rhiannon are the core team. Confirmed: the location will be The Millerton Inn lawn. Owner Peter want to be involved. Rhiannon will get a Library insurance rider. Chris will make a layout for the lawn. CSC will host and man the anchor tent. The goal is messaging for CSC: awareness and to get people involved as well as education and inspiration. Overall theme is *INVEST IN OUR PLANET*. Chris needs people to man the table / to educate. Volunteers so far are Claire, Tom, Rhiannon, Eliot, Deb, Chow. NE ford wants to be involved. NECC will have a kids' activity. PR opportunities: possible free 'billboards' at Svendale's windows, Kent Glass, Meta, and Charlotte Taylor. Chris will meet with The Moviehouse, also with Craig of the Webutuck art group about a kid's art piece - perhaps a post-it collage. Deborah spoke with Tara B - and will talk with Craig about a big waste plastic sculpture. Chris wants farms to be represented and will coordinate with McEnroes' Michelle. Deborah offered suggestions to encourage interaction: game or tack board for questions to CSC task force. QR code treasure hunt on window or lawn signs with links to the website. Chris to canvas merchants for silent auction donations and permission to put things in their windows. There's a lot of Interest in energy. We can tap into that with a NYSERDA energy audit sign up table. People especially want to know about heat pumps. Other display ideas: Laurie's indoor storms. Mary Lynn's road salt advice: examples of ice melt & sand. Village plans for the charging Station and for LED streetlights. Highway garage education?? (Chris says no but maybe there is a story about moving the salt and / or the gas tank enabling benchmarking of fuel.) Mary Lynn suggests Investing in home gardens, seeds started in egg crates, offering cold weather plants. The Farmer's Market is scheduled (indoors) that day. Peter will have souvlaki stand. Mary Lynn has some connections to music. We will have a modest budget for activities. OK to use it for LED bulbs or compost bin give away. Herrington will likely donate 1K for PR. A flyer is not needed but we can run ads in Main Street and Millerton News - and more. Matt had reported Water bills go out the first week January, April, July, October. Laurie's electrification article will be in April Main Street. It may be possible to brand it Climate Smart...? That will support an ad we put in there. She will F/U with Griffen.

Chow pitched a new action to consider: PE5: **Recycling Bins in Gov't Buildings**. It requires all buildings to participate by policy. Town Hall does recycle but not the HW Garage. Bob will ask Welsh what it would take. If possible, it's an easy and quick 3 points.

Rhiannon reported on **Social Media** activity. Top post was Deborah's picture of her Bulk freezer. Tips not stock photos. Boxes, ice melt, on Facebook the top post was our survey. Viewers were up 10 - 15 people in a month. That boost came from Chris's email about the Survey she guesses. This month Andrew will contribute, Claire will send a compost post, and Eliot will send winter seed head content.

Chow asked for input on the **WIP Grant allocations**. There were no comments, so it's set. (See below)

PE2: **GHG study and landfill.** Andrew has done monumental work entering data into ClearPath including 8 different electric bills just for the village. Currently all town electric and fuel is in. Commuter info not significant and so will not be reported. Next step is for First Environment to record the base year and model various options. There are exciting developments regarding our closed landfill. Chris K described the 15-acre capped landfill which is monitored by NY state. First Environment is assessing methane leakage. Our engineer is helping with that. Companies have approached Chris to put a solar installation on the site - likely to generate 3MW of power. It may be feasible now. They will give Chris a proposal. If realistic - it WILL be very a very public process. Neighbors will surely be divided, and we will need to explain benefits. Tom reminded us about a proposal from few years ago. It was close to being accepted but was a no-go last minute - perhaps due to anchoring through the cap. The new proposals use concrete feet to support the uprights instead of penetrating.

PE6- **Complete Streets.** Rhiannon reviewed the tweak to original resolution to assess performance procedure for reporting on progress and checklist to use in decision making. Not burdensome for town but still get points. Reminder to read the actions carefully to check ALL the boxes or we won't get the points.

Tom will follow up about PE-9 **Public Outreach, Education** and PE- 6 **Biking and Walking**

Meeting adjourned: 6:30

Next meeting: Thursday, February 17, 2022 5:30-6:30

Grant Allocations:

NYSERDA - \$5000

1040 Electric chainsaw for Highway Dept.

960 Earth Day events

Printing (bike map, brochures)

LED lightbulbs / compost bin giveaway

3000 Replacement Windows for Town Hall (partial)

Local Champions - \$8000

900 Yearly CSC Web hosting / maintenance

5250 GHG study (partial) - First Environment

150 Recycle bins for gov't buildings

1500 Bike rack & road signs

200 Earth Day events

\$13,000 Total

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Climate Smart Community Task Force Meeting Notes February 17, 2022

5:30–6:30 pm ZOOM

Present: Kathy Chow, Chris Virtuoso, Chris Kennan, Eliot Ramos, Rich Stalzer, Andrew Stayman, Griffin Cooper, Claire Owens, Laurie Kerr

Guest: Steve Fahmie

Absent: Jennifer Dowley, Matthew Hartzog, Rhiannon Leo-Jamison, Carrissa Whitehead, Deborah Maier, Tom Parrett

Chow welcomed guest Steve Fahmie. He lives on the Rail Trail and knows a lot about the habitat there. She announced the annual meeting of the Conservation Advisory Committees (CAC) where each town's committee recaps what they have been doing for the past year. Chow will send out invites to this year's meeting which will be held on Zoom Thursday, March 31, 6-8pm.

Chris K. announced the approval of Rich Stalzer as new Chair of the Town of North East's CAC following the resignation of much appreciated Dianne Engleke who has agreed to stay on the committee as a member. CONGRATULATIONS RICH!

Chow reminded the group of the CSC Submission deadline on April 1, with the drop-dead deadline of April 5, 2022. She shared the Path to Bronze Hotlist .v5

Two new actions are happily being submitted for Bronze. Thanks to North East Town Clerk Tilly Strauss, recycling has been implemented at Town Hall and the Highway Department - PE6. Andrew Stayman has developed a Greenhouse Gas tracking system - PE10. Andrew elaborated, saying the tool was populated by entering data previously collected from benchmarking and the GHG inventory.

Rich updated everyone on the CSC survey. He reported 12 responses since the announcement of the survey article in the Millerton News. Thus far, 115 surveys have been collected, demos skewed female and older. We are woefully short on opinions from 20- and 30-year-olds.

Earth Day 2022 - Chris V

Program, Millerton Inn Lawn - Chris V. shared his screen to show his working spreadsheet:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/o670vg8bgoyy21xkqtuiq/ED-2022---Status-Sheet_cv.gsheets?dl=0&rlkey=n9hwwycl4j48yxhlznn9ue5e#gid=0

He confirmed that the Millerton Inn will host activities on the lawn. Chris V. has spoken to Rhiannon who has assured him that she will obtain the insurance writer for lawn activities. He confirmed the donation of tents, tables, and chairs. Chris V. discussed increasing CSC awareness at the designated CSC tent on Earth Day. We will be the hub and can collect email addresses.. He

discussed several food stations including a M. Inn Souvlaki Stand and the prospect of an Ice Cream cart thanks to Candy-Os. Millerton Wine and Spirits will have organic wines. North East Ford will present electric vehicles and perhaps show a presentation from Central Hudson on heating and energy saving. They will include us in their social media, blasts. Chow suggested seeking out an electric bike vendor as well. Berkshire Bike and Board is likely, or Covered Bridge in Cornwall. Griffen has a contact there. Jenny Green Jeans will show off composting and have items for sale. Connor will have a demonstration about planting natives - perhaps that can link in with our pollinator garden info. Webutuck's Craig will have honor society / art department display. Patrick McGeever & Deb are working on an Instagram-able walk-around costume: Bag Monster, and a display case of trash. Lloyd Hicks referred Chris to vendor Sealed - they do insulation and heat pumps. Chris contacted Danielle, from Rhinebeck Fair, she does consumer outreach for Central Hudson - will connect Chris with PR about having a person to talk about energy audits. Other displays: road salt with Mary Lynn and maybe INDOW through Laurie. Andrew suggested Jen N for a Central Hudson contact. Rich suggested asking local vendors like Eco Builders and Herrington's for vendors, gadgets, connections - e.g., for how to prevent disasters like the recent house fire. More ideas: electrical: how to prep a house for EV charging. Energy audit sign up. Rich suggested community solar. Steve F. volunteered to assist at a heat efficiency table - explaining INDOW windows and heat pumps. Henry S can be with Steve to talk about fireplace inserts and more. Chow suggested Rob Cooper of Associated to discuss lighting rods, whole house surge protectors. Agway can show off electric tools or have Bob Stevens and his electric chainsaw. Chow shared the new Seek Thermal Imaging Camera that will be housed at the library soon. Andrew will use it to see if gas is coming out of town dump methane spouts. Chow asked can we get to American legion, gun club, fire department? Chris K has those contacts. Warns to make messages to them curated: short and sweet and home oriented eg fire safety and smoke alarms. Chris wants to make larger posters and graphics eg the bike map, pollinator plan. Rich will ask a relative about how to hang posters outside. Laurie / Chris K suggested factoids on a chalk board / white board to be updated throughout the day. For example: X miles in Gas = Y pounds of Co2. Make it interactive. A 20 lb weight with 1 gallon gas can. Or 100 miles in a car = a big balloon / 100 miles in a EV = small container / 100 miles on an ebike = grain of rice. Or relate quantities to the case of bottles - or village water tower. A car that gets 25 mpg driven for 100 miles emits 80 lbs. co2. An EV plugged into the grid reduces it to 8 lbs. Steve suggests carbon AND cost: 100 miles costs \$16 for a gas car but only \$7. For EV. And there is up to \$7500 of tax incentive from the feds.

Chris V. discussed a few musical options: Otis and others for the day's event.

Program, Around the Village - The Moviehouse has agreed to host a free screening of *March of the Penguins*. They will also promote through their ad in Main Street. Other small businesses will be offering gift certificates and gift baskets for a raffle - proceeds to go to Eddie Collins Trees. NECC will participate - plans TBD. Main Street windows are available. Chris V Will investigate Terni's windows. He spoke to Sven of Svendale who agreed to use his windows as a billboard - maybe for a student art poster contest. Heads up: those windows are seen from fast moving vehicles, so those graphics need to be big.

Earth Day virtual events

North East Library will be streaming an educational presentation from Cornell(?). Jennifer is working on a talk from Jen M office about NY State. The main focus this year will be on in-person events - post COVID.

PR / Ads - Chris V. mentioned that Main Street Magazine will be running our CSC ad in its April issue. Chris V. will be working up a layout for the Millerton News as well. Stacey Moore of Moore and Moore Printing is working on posters for the event. Kelly can include promo in the village water bills - deadline is April 8. Chris K. asked about a focal time for the event and suggested that Assembly member Didi Barret is interested in attending. Chris V. answered 1:30 pm as a high point of activity.

Main Street Magazine - Laurie K. and her article for the April issue are currently being laid out per Griffin.

Web Content- Rich S. has generated a QR code on our site for Earth Day. First phase is a cryptic "save the date" with more content to be filled in over time. This year's messaging will be on what to learn about: The Value rather than a whole schedule of events.

Chris V. asked for more Earth Day ideas and contacts. KEEP EM COMIN'!

Chris K. told of the front-page article in the latest Millerton News about road salt and its effects on the surrounding waterways.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:35
Next meeting: April 21.
That's 2days before Earth Day!!!

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Climate Smart Community Task Force Meeting Notes April 21, 2022

5:30–6:30 pm ZOOM

Present: Kathy Chow, Chris Virtuoso, Chris Kennan, Eliot Ramos, Rich Stalzer, Andrew Stayman, Rhiannon Leo-Jamison, Tom Parrett Griffin Cooper, Claire Owens, Laurie Kerr, Jennifer Dowley,

Guest: Steve Fahmie, Henry Smedley

Absent: Matthew Hartzog, Carrissa Whitehead, Deborah Maier,

Chow welcomed guests Steve Fahmie and Henry Smedley who will join us for Earth Day to show off environmental home solutions. 3/17/22 Meeting Notes were Reviewed and Approved.

Chris V reviewed the lineup for Earth Day – status and the layout (see attached). He asked for volunteers to man the CSC tent, set up and tear down. Suggested meeting up at 52 afterwards but timing conflicts with the Greening the Grid talk. Rhiannon discussed scant signup and the possibility of rescheduling to get more PR and attendees. Chris K encouraged rescheduling out of respect for Jen Metzger. Chris V wants a plan for where to put the props after ED. Chris V will introduce the free community Movie March of the Penguins at the Moviehouse. He acknowledged their generous ad which has been running for a month. Rich described the borrowed CCE energy display which will aid homeowners in energy efficiency. Members volunteered to lend props including induction stovetop & pot, backup battery, electric chainsaw & blower, water filter jug, electric bike. The NECC will set-up a table on the lawn around 11am with seeds and food donation requests. Webutuck students will present several Earth Day Exercises. Bash Bish Bicycle will host a pop-up tune-up shop. North East Ford will have a tent with electric vehicles on the lawn, one hybrid truck and another electric vehicle. Chow mentioned the importance of collecting the emails of those who visit the CSC tables on Saturday. We'll wear bandanas and name tags so we're recognizable.

Chow described a future event – to be planned and executed by the task force: a vendor fair / community meeting in the fall. Chris K suggested a display that you walk through having learned something, not just an overwhelming mess of options.

Andrew asked about CCA. Chris K has investigated. It's complicated and requires actual consumer by in. Perhaps in the future. Andrew then asked about greening Town Hall. Chris K said the building isn't appropriate to retrofit as he wants to replace it with a new joint Town and Village building after the Highway Garage is done. Andrew asked the status of getting a green power vendor. CCE has advised that we SHOULD send the RFP for Green Energy even though the vendors aren't ready. Hopefully enough demand from towns like us will encourage them to offer what we need.

Chris K reported the Village water tower is all cleaned and inspected. Scuba divers did the final inspection. He will look for cool pictures to publicize it. Eliot said Cole is concerned with PFOS. Rhiannon asked about the crook who continues to illegally dump on 22 in Copake and how that would affect water quality. Steve explained that contamination goes into the Roe Jan.

Chow reported that interns are available if we have a project.

- New York State Clean Energy Internships
<https://www.nysed.gov/All-Programs/Clean-Energy-Workforce-Development/NYS->
- Partners for Climate Action Catalyst grants

Andrew asked if the town could pass a law banning single use plastics for restaurants, food stores. Yes, the town board could. BUT. A better first step is to approach restaurants and merchants. Laurie and Jennifer suggest finding some options to offer them - approaching the merchants one on one. Franchises are the worst. Cumberland Farms and CVS are big problems but uncooperative so best to focus on what we can achieve. Steve asked if the town fine Cumbies for littering. It's an enforcement issue.

Chris K commended the huge effort that went into submitting for bronze.
Chris K announced the relaunch of the CAC with appreciation to Rich.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:35
Next meeting: June 16.

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Climate Smart Community Task Force

Meeting Notes June 16, 2022

5:30–6:30 pm In Person - Town Hall

Present: Kathy Chow, Chris Virtuoso, Chris Kennan, Rich Stalzer, Andrew Stayman, Rhiannon Leo-Jamison,

Guests: Claire Goodman, Henry Smedley

Absent: Matthew Hartzog, Tom Parrett, Griffin Cooper, Laurie Kerr, Jennifer Dowley, Carrissa Whitehead, Deborah Maier

Rhiannon reported on Greening the Grid: 30 Registered, 17 attended.

Post webinar survey comments were good, some said “fantastic”. People liked that it felt hopeful / no more doom and gloom. Asked How did they hear about it? Most said WOM. The down side of WOM is that we continue to be preaching to the choir.

A lively discussion followed planning for an in-person Community Meeting. The working title is “**Energy Saving Expo**” It’s a natural extension to Earth Day. A successful reference meeting was the NECC American Legion Comp Plan kick off. It was moderated by NECC and had about 100 people. (No dinner, just cookies). Our community meeting would be a one-time event to introduce concepts that can then have ongoing support available at the library. Chris K warned us to get well organized – we have ONE shot.

It’s probably best on a Saturday in between seasons. E.g. late fall / beginning of November.

Note: Eddie Collins opening is September 10. Elections are November 3.

TBD what time of day is best? Chris K said nobody listens in the evening.

Probably best for CSC NOT to be the inviter. Partner with another voice eg / NECC or the American Legion would reach a broader audience. Josh Schultz and Christine Sergent were our partners for the culvert flooding study.

OUR GOAL IS TO EDUCATE AND INSPIRE, BROADEN OUR VOICE...AND ENTERTAIN.

Use the Earth Day festival to build audience interest and more actively promote CSC brand awareness.

We need a more compelling seduction than climate change education. We must change the dynamics / switch the conversation to WIIFM: savings and resilience for their own homes.

Gotta have a draw. Like a school PTA event: seduce first...come to a party have a drink, mingle.

Then see the main presentation and walk through a display. Leave having learned something. (It’s not just an overwhelming mess of options).

Root problem is getting the audience. WIIFM? What is the bait? Hook? People want to have FUN.

Chow recommended structuring it along these CSC Actions: Education and Engagement Plan (review our own), Vendor Fair, and Vulnerability Study. Vulnerable populations include those living in flood zones, seniors, language barriers, poverty. But be sensitive about the titles. The CSC part is How does Climate Change affect these groups?

- Opportunity for people to realize economic benefits for their house
- WIIFM – financial benefit
- Get to people who are not on board
- Help people understand their vulnerabilities e.g. living along in flood zones
- How people, houses, and businesses can be resilient to storms
- Do signups right there on line for NYSERDA
- Find a way to communicate about dark skys, recycling, etc.

Next steps: read the Action requirements for each

Rhiannon explained the new Library for Local collection from Partners for Climate Action HV. It's a seed library with preselected climate educational materials. We can use the shelves for brochures, info from Earth Day, and follow up from our education events.

COMMUNICATIONS

Our goal is to get a bigger attendance – we need to finalize and use our communications plan. (get it Done, even if it's not perfect). We have Tom's draft

Marketing thoughts to reach the non-choir:

- Message: Save money on XYZ. Come to this meeting and learn how to do this./
- Chris wants to do a mailer. Not quarterly – one shot. It reaches an audience that's not digital. Focus on lots of things they care about / make it not get thrown away. Send in advance of community meeting.
- Road signs, Village Facebook, library lunch group, Emergency Services.
- Chris K emails have broad reach, but he needs lessons on attachments – Rhiannon offered to teach him.

Village Food festival marketing was done well and a good model. (Granted, Food is more compelling than dry CSC subjects). It was produced by Townscape / Main Street / Thorunn. Ask Griffen

Chris V's planning structure:

Name? How to seduce? Need strategy of what we're trying to accomplish. What are we looking to do? What is our Measure our success? People in a room? Show up at the expo and talk to vendors? Get bodies together? Educate them?

Think of it as a festival

- Marketing – sexier / model for events
- Programming – what's there
- Logistics. Chris V can lead that

It's important to define the GOALS so we can have measurable results:

Earth Day Learnings:

Need to consolidate in one location – perhaps RR plaza. CSC is the host and should have the middle hub table among the fun stuff and promote brand awareness.

Earth Day was actually a social event. People were really there to have fun. “I won’t leave my house to look at a graph.” – Andrew. Food & students got the buzz. Bag monster was the big hit – Instagram moments. Walk arounds are a chance to grab people and drag them in.

Next time:

Need Better marketing and promotions

Amplify the Bike station, vehicles,

Challenges: In April we really need a plan B! for bad weather. Preferably indoors.

How best to support the merchants

Review what we have / props at the beginning.

Zoom Webinar got very little sign up. (Andrew’s personally Zoomed out. It feels like work now.)

Farm stand and the guitar at the School house were away from the action – not much traffic.

NECC back yard didn’t happen.

Chris V wanted to keep it going at 52 Main but interest had fizzled by 4:00.

As a reference: Spring for sound took 5 years to take off. They had the advantage that it was about music – and it still took years. It was for FUN.

Ideas: Walk up and down the rail trail among food vendors.

- Green house tours – like Trade Secrets
- Teaser to put in the paper
- Andrew wants to involve the Moviehouse / do live talks there with Q and A. Their PR is excellent.
- Chris brought up 2 things we’ve never championed: 1. Solar array to pump to the tower. One determined Board member made it happen - early adopter in 2011. 2. Composting toilets - Open the door – have people understand how it works. In that part of town: celebrate the toilet!
- Rich said Earth Day taught us that people are interested in Tangible Tech things. What’s new that they can apply to their own situation / own property. Chris’s battery was the most popular – so powerful for such a little box
- What do they want to know? Rich said people didn’t know about what’s on the website Highlight content that’s on our website. Ads on FB are effective. Chris V suggests – every other week. Paper is happy to do a weekly article. Need to understand this: data is automatically collected when “more” is clicked.

Cake Break to celebrate Bronze. Cheers all around. Chris and Chow thanked each other and the task force. NY State will make official announcement about the new Bronze towns. We must keep quiet till then.

There was a **Town Board Meeting** on June 6. Chow presented the submitted actions list organized into Green, Orange, Blue categories. Chris emphasized that lots of towns have taken the pledge, not many are bronze. We were awarded 142 points.

We didn't get points for 2 actions: Road Stream Crossings management plan didn't qualify as a vulnerability study but that's because the action requirements have changed since 2018. (The Bike map would no longer gets points for that reason). The GHG tracking tool will need to be upgraded by the developer to include landfill emissions to satisfy that action.

The Village is next. They're in very good shape to get to bronze as many town actions were joint projects. The Village is overwhelmed with priority projects, but we can do LOT without bothering them.

Rich reported on **Earth Day web traffic** which was active for about 1 month in advance. There were spikes to about 40 visitors per day (notably 28 new visitors). Smaller peaks came from publicity in Millerton News and an interview in Main Street Mag (15 – 20 new people). Traffic came direct or from a QR code. FB generates leads more than Instagram. (We should be on the active Millerton FB!) Most traffic went to the ED page & home page. 30 people went to About! This is an opportunity - they were probably first timers. Our About section is pretty dry (aimed at gov't reviewers). We can liven it up for the curious public. Make it more fun! Start with "What is Climate Smart?".

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30
Next meeting: August 18.

Dropbox Link - <https://www.dropbox.com/home/North%20East%20Millerton%20CSC>
Actions Portal - <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/>



Climate Smart Community Task Force

Meeting Notes July 21, 2022

5:30–6:30 pm In Person - Town Hall

Present: Kathy Chow, Chris Virtuoso, Chris Kennan, Rich Stalzer, Andrew Stayman, Rhiannon Leo-Jamison, Tom Parrett, Jennifer Dowley, Carrissa Whitehead

Guests: Claire Goodman

Absent: Matthew Hartzog, Griffin Cooper, Laurie Kerr, Deborah Maier

Town's CSC Bronze

NY State finally announced the Town's CSC Bronze – the Millerton News article will come out this week.

Feedback was received from the CSC board on each action. We got points for all but 2:

Vulnerability and GHG Tracking tool. Vulnerability requirements were changed within the time we worked on it. Andrew will work with Kat on the tracking tool to hopefully add landfill info.

Village Bronze

Village Bronze is the next job. Chow showed a chart that details how they can get up to 201 points by doing very little. They already have 124 points basically done. Once the CAP is done (soon) they'll have 140. Those actions just need to be written up.

Andrew asked about Benchmarking. It's only for buildings so will include only water buildings.

Rich asked about timing. Chow said submission is do-able end of 2022. He noted that CSC requirements change frequently so best to do it quickly. Chris K thinks Bronze will help only marginally for sewer funding.

Engaging the Village is important. Matt and Laurie need to spearhead it. Jenn won't have time to come to meetings but will do whatever is asked of her.

Andrew reported the Village Solar fixit still is still stalled by the ghosting installer. He's chasing.

Rhiannon volunteered to work on Complete Streets. Chris K mentioned the report on streets.

(Pedestrian plan) Lots of work is being done on sidewalks, flashing lights, etc. That will count for Infrastructure for biking and walking.

EV Charger

Jennifer said the EV charger has been ordered. It could be operational in October. They're still shy \$2500 and the Village was promised no cost. Partners for Climate Action might fund the difference – Jenn will attend their Zoom. Rhiannon said Greg Culver's County grants are a possibility. Jennifer said when installed the users pay. She and Andrew will finalize the deal. Chargepoint is the network – they do the maintenance. It's a 5-year cycle. CH has a map of nearby charger sites we can use to decide charging costs. The conduit is sized to accommodate

another future charger. The HW garage and Eddie Collins will also accommodate chargers. (EC: 27!). North East Ford and Four Brothers currently have chargers. Chris V compared the card / membership to the jet fuel biz.

Landfill

Andrew, Chris, Bob S, Chow toured the Landfill July 15 to thermal image the emissions. Unfortunately, they're not visible. BUT Chris borrowed North East Ford's F150 Lightning demo loaner. Bob S test drove and liked it. It's a possibility for the pickup replacement coming up soon. Chris mentioned it at the DEC Region 6 Kelly Turturro meeting. AC Power will visit July 26 and investigate. Many factors will determine if it's feasible. Chris will report next meeting.

Break to take a Task Force picture for website.

Green Vendor Fair – Conclusion: Earth Day 2023 at Eddie Collins

#1, Fall option: Energy Savings Expo. (October 22 is too soon.) November 5 is possible but close to election day. Probably needs to wait for next year. CSC awareness - ping them 2X year. Goal is to reach beyond the choir so best if the sponsor is NOT us. (Eg NECC or American Legion). Fall event is a second yearly event – gets momentum. Coordinate with Fall for Art? People are thinking fixits so the right time for a serious meeting with speakers. See what's going on especially in tech. See it / touch it.

#2, Earth Day Option: Do it in conjunction with Earth Day. Give ED more focus and grow it by having vendors eg. 2 vendors and a sustainable food cart for year 1, then expand. Asking vendors earlier is important. April weather is unreliable so consider indoors – eg. at American Legion.

Reminder: WIIFM. Have vendors that offer people ways to make their house resilient to cold / save energy... Help folks sign up for energy audits right there. How to combine that with "Come to a party, have fun, raffles..." Rhiannon: Sliding scale of what you can do. Need to look for other town examples. References: Home shows in Millbrook (fancy), Dutchess County Fair. Comp Plan Meeting had 15 min break outs with various table discussions, Could be 3 hours including info area and several talks. Rhiannon mentioned a Cornell list.

Conclusion: Earth Day at Eddie Collins. We haven't cracked Earth Day yet. Need to focus on that / get a good turnout for all this effort. Challenge is how to get people to come out for an event that's not food or music. Not about getting points – it's what the community needs.

Need to clearly articulate what the festival IS before launching publicity. Focus on programming. Eddie Collins is the solution to April weather – parking, pavilion under cover...and celebrates Eddie Collins (ready Oct 1, 2022)! It's not in Village but businesses don't really benefit anyway, and we can see who will come for Earth Day (as opposed to a Village event).

Once we have programming and Communications plan, the logistics are "easy" for Chris V.

Communications

Tom's Communications plan. For every event, start with the tickler list and see what applies.

Everybody review the list and send Tom edits! See attached.

Social Media

Rhiannon said Deborah and Tom have been contributing and library has upcoming posts to add to ours. Chris K noted Rail Trail flooding – because of beavers. (Illegal to remove their dens but OK to reduce the height.) Post beavers and turtle notes on Rail Trail with “watch out for signs of...” messages.

Bulk Trash Day – Water bill goes out soon. Sept 10 will be our day (Sept 17 is county collection). Chris V will plan. Expecting good action because we skipped last spring.

Refrigerant removal:

GREAT news - Central Hudson will pick up refrigerators AND pay \$100.

Jennifer to write up a SM post / web article.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:35 followed by Bronze celebration at Millerton Inn

Next meeting: Sept 15.

Dropbox Link - <https://www.dropbox.com/home/North%20East%20Millerton%20CSC>

Actions Portal - <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/>



Climate Smart Community Task Force

Meeting Notes August 18, 2022

5:30–6:30 pm ZOOM

Present: Kathy Chow, Chris Virtuoso, Rich Stalzer, Andrew Stayman, Rhiannon Leo-Jamison, Laurie Kerr, Deborah Maier, Claire Goodman

Absent: Chris Kennan, Matthew Hartzog, Griffin Cooper, Carrissa Whitehead

Minutes from the July 21 meeting were approved

Chow thanked Jennifer and Tom for their amazing contributions but added with regret that both have taken a leave from the Task Force until they have finished their other commitments. They are now “advisors”.

Bulk Trash Day Plans – September 10 – Chris V

Chris reviewed the Communications Plan provided by Tom. (on our Dropbox – link is below).

From last BTM, when asked how they heard about it most said: Post office, Community Bulletin Board and Supervisor email. Reminder to ask everybody when they pay.

Put posters all over town. (Use the familiar poster template, update dates and QR codes.)

Rich posted the complete poster with prices on our site. It’s also in Green news.

Get info to Tilly for Town site and FB and to Kelly for Village.

Draft info for Supervisor email - to be sent Sept 1.

Get 2 lawn signs (that include “NE / Millerton residents only”) and place at major intersections – 3 weeks ahead. Decided not to run an ad in the newspaper - but do alert the paper in case they want to announce it somehow. Decided not to do a swap table.

Sept 10 volunteers: Claire volunteered. Probably Chris K. Chris V will check with Bob, ask Carrissa / Webutuck students, ask Eliot and Steve Fahamie. Possibly Rich and Rhiannon can help if absolutely necessary. Poughkeepsie drop-off is Sept 17 – ask Griffen if he can drive.

Ask Lorna to order the dumpsters. Get petty cash box with singles from Chris K.

Social Media - Rhiannon - this month’s posts

Rhiannon reported that the most popular post was about beavers. This month’s post ideas:

1. Bring seeds to seed library
2. Bulk Trash Day – and press release for Climate Awareness Week
3. Salisbury Bank Community Shred “Drive-thru” Day 9 AM – 12
4. Jennifer’s fridge removal story with \$100 payment and Central Hudson contact info.

Reminder to write about seasonal subjects: raking leaves, road salt.

Village path to Bronze

Laurie and Chow met with Jenn Aug 11 at Village Hall. Reviewed Path to Bronze. Jenn was enthusiastic. We will make requests in bunches by email e.g., adding our site to the village site. Actions like resolution for benchmarking, education campaign, etc. will be adapted from Town examples and Jenn will present to VB. Rhiannon met with Jenn re: complete streets. R will adapt the policy from the Town's and Jenn will decide how they want to incorporate it into their process (which will be different than the town's).

Cole will be back in office mid Sept for 4 weeks following shoulder surgery so he's on desk duty. We should schedule actions then that require Cole's participation then. Eg Policies for Benchmarking, vehicle replacement, GHG tracking...

- Here's the action
- Here's how the Town did it
- How do you want to do it?

PE10 Tracking tool is OK for the Village (no landfill emissions). Andrew and Laurie will do benchmarking for the Village garage, pump house and decide how to handle electric in water tower shed.

Landfill – Bob, Chris, Chow toured with AC Power July 26. AC Will decide if it's feasible and if so, propose a deal. Factors include maintenance route, distance to grid. We will (together) present to the public. Laurie emphasized messaging / important to plan those meetings carefully eg explaining pros and cons including reduced taxes and electric discounts for customers who sign up. AC will supply pictures of screening etc. Chris wants to make the small view at the Rail Trail an educational opportunity.

Grants – Tom / Jennifer looked into PCAHV grants. It's possible they might work for Eddie Collins Trees. Claire will notify EC board. Chow will send Claire info.

Anti-idling

Deborah asked about anti-idling. (There might still be a CSC action.) Laurie can ask at the Monday Village meeting if there is a law. Encouraging people in a nice (humorous?) way is a better path as laws need to be policed. The message is to make better habits now voluntarily rather than be forced to adapt later. How to change attitudes? Awareness is #1. Social media is perfect for that message. Deborah will write a post for Rhiannon.

Road salt. Time to regroup. Bob Stevens visited Rhinebeck to see their brine mixer made by their HD super from ordinary parts. Cole is interested too, and Chris will support it. Need to do a cost benefit analysis. Savings comes from reduced salt needed to manage snow. Laurie volunteered. Mary Lynn is passionate. It's a great education opportunity especially for businesses that hire maintenance contractors. They tend to oversalt thinking it's safer. Mary Lynn met with Library last year.

CAP meeting – all invited. August 30 at 6PM at the Library Annex.

The draft for comments is on our site. Phil might come in person. The CAP is the roadmap for GHG reductions, the conclusions are based on findings in the GHG inventories. To start with: Year 1 calls for the Village Solar inverter fixit. Andrew is chasing it. Kelly will get lawyers involved one last time. Selectria and Solar Liberty are the players. Issues are complex but worth it e.g., our model of inverter is discontinued. To be continued...

Energy Saving Expo / Earth Day 2023 – Chris V

Planning should start in October

Step 1 is programming and who to get involved. Then sign them up.

Chris's brainstorm committee: Claire, Carrissa, Deborah has a senior in mind. Goal is to get different dimensions.

See the venue, plan food and drink. Where would presentations happen? Loop in Cary, Cornell, Webutuck (avoid winter break). Invite the NYSERDA energy audit presenter.

Centerpiece is the festival: Music, eco food, artists, performers. Dutchess county fair is a template: schedule with events throughout the day and presentations. Electric tractor pull! Official Int'l theme is usually posted in February. Chow will send out notes from past 2 discussions.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30

Next meeting: Sept 15.

Dropbox Link - <https://www.dropbox.com/home/North%20East%20Millerton%20CSC>

Actions Portal - <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/>

Meeting Minutes

**CLIMATE ACTION PLAN JOINT TOWN OF NORTH EAST &
VILLAGE OF MILLERTON PUBLIC MEETING**

August 30 at 6PM at the Library Annex.

Presenter: Phil Ludvigsen, First Environment

Attendees: Supervisor Chris Kennan, TB member Lana Morrison, TB member John Midwood, TB member Ralph Fedele, Mayor Jenn Najdek, VB member Alicia Satori, VB member Laurie Kerr, Edie Greenwood, Bill Kish, Dave Sherman, CSC Coordinator Kathy Chow, CAC chair Rich Stalzer, CSC member Andrew Stayman, CSC member Deborah Maier, T clerk Tilly Strauss, V clerk Kelly Kilmer, Phil Ludvigsen, First Environment came in person from NJ.

The draft for comments was on the ClimateSmartMillerton website.

Chris recapped the history of the CSC and the GHG projects.

Phil Walked us through Joint CAP Presentation 8-30-2022 Final

He explained that the CAP is the roadmap for GHG reductions, the conclusions are based on calculations in the GHG inventories. He explained the process and procedures, the separate inventories, and joint findings.

Phil summarized the recommendations:

Year 0 - 1

Village: Pump House Solar Repair (replace 15Kw Invertor)

Town: replace one gas vehicle with an EV

Year 2 - 5

Town: Green Power Purchase Agreement

Village: LED Streetlight Replacement

Village: Upgrade or Expand Pump House Solar

Village: Upgrade Village Pump House Operations – New Eff. Pumps

Year 6 - 10

Town: Closed Landfill - Methane Biotreatment

Additional Recommended Actions

Town and Village Consideration:

- Conduct a Climate Vulnerability Assessment
- Produce a community Green Vendor Fair
- Conduct a Community GHG Inventory and Climate Action Plan
- Review, finalize, consider adopting:
Master Plan For Bicycling & Walking, 2022

Town Education and Engagement Plan, 2022
Town Complete Streets Plan, 2022
Village Pedestrian Plan, 2018

Discussions:

Year 1 calls for the Village Solar inverter to be fixed.

Andrew explained the status. Kelly reported that only 1 inverter (not 2) needs replacing, and it IS under warrantee and IS being fixed now. Selectria and Solar Liberty are the players.

Questions for Phil from attendees:

Ralph: What is a tonne of GHG? Is it a weight?

A: CSC will do website / social media posts about this

Rich: What does the Business-as-usual graph for the landfill look like?

A: Sharp decline. Phil will add it to the report.

Bill Kish: Why wait till year 10 to remit landfill GHG? The impact is strongest NOW.

A: Phil will bump it up in the timeline. Chris will initiate actual measuring and biofilter possibilities. Phil encouraged us to pursue new Federal grants.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00



Climate Smart Community Task Force Meeting Notes September 14, 2022 5:30–6:30 pm ZOOM

Present: Kathy Chow, Rich Stalzer, Andrew Stayman, Deborah Maier, Chris Kennan, Claire Goodman

Absent: Rhiannon Leo-Jamison, Laurie Kerr, Chris Virtuoso, Matthew Hartzog, Griffin Cooper, Carrissa Whitehead

Minutes from the August 18 meeting were approved

Announcement: Bill Kish will present his DRAFT lighting ordinance (residential and other including Dark Skys) on Monday 9_19 4:30 at Town Hall. Chris K noted it's in the very early stages. Receiving comments now.

Things to do:

Chris K said the HW Garage stream has been straightened. Volunteers to plant stream bank are Rich, Andrew, Claire, Deborah, Chris, Chow. HVPCA might want to give a grant for that. Trees for Tribes is a logical place to start.

Amenia's Stacy Mantel wants to collaborate to help green Webutuck School – including rooftop solar. Deborah will talk with her. Chow will send intro.

Calendarize the Village water bills – do an insert in each that is a single message. (Not a newsletter). Short and sweet like an Instagram post. Could be a 2 sided card.

First subjects: Road Salt (Limit salt, why) and Leave the Leaves. Message: Leave or grind up your leaves. Don't use a leaf blower because of energy and noise. (2 cycle engines are not clean).

Millerton residents picked up leaves are dumped at Silimar Farm.

Andrew to draft that.

Chris K said Ancram bulk trash day includes tires – would be great if we could. See their post from Chris. BTD yearly schedule comes out Early March – (now on Chow's calendar)

Need volunteers to drive electronics to Poughkeepsie or don't offer that.

Results of the CAP meeting (see meeting minutes): Chris will find ways to have landfill gases metered and possibly add a Biofilter (check it out grants for this.)

New quote for leasing to solar operator is significant, in 2015 it was only 10K

Warren to tell Chris what legalities are – Requires a local law to accept the offer. Public outreach will happen in advance of any decisions.

Andrew stressed the urgency to come up with Emergency Plans!!

Step 1: review the Comp Plan & CSRP (policies and procedures). They both call out priorities. EG how to get to the Amer legion or how to take care of yourself if you can't get there.

It is OUR responsibility to educate.

Update the emergency services plan with village. Inc. warming and cooling procedures. Start with Amer Legion. Schedule that meeting Sean Clay. Chris will talk with Sean. Get to know them. Needs a formal procedure – they need to staff it. Town hall too.

Chris V and Claire will present plans for ED 2023 next time.

Millerton Bronze – Andrew will do the benchmarking / GHG actions with Laurie, starting with measuring village buildings.

Deborah – to work on the farmers market writeup with Chow's guidance.

Andrew and Chris K. will work on the Village solar installation. Get the sign made with Cole or Jennifer's source. Article to be put it in the paper.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:25

Next meeting: Oct 20.

Dropbox Link - <https://www.dropbox.com/home/North%20East%20Millerton%20CSC>

Actions Portal - <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/>



Climate Smart Community Task Force Meeting Notes October 20, 2022

5:30–6:30 pm ZOOM

Present: Kathy Chow, Rhiannon Leo-Jamison, Chris Virtuoso, Andrew Stayman, Deborah Maier, Chris Kennan, Claire Goodman, Jennifer Dowley

Absent: Rich Stalzer, Matthew Hartzog, Laurie Kerr, Griffin Cooper, Carrissa Whitehead
Minutes from September 14 went out late. To be approved next month.

Chow spoke about how the task force can be more effective: how to make “Things to Do” happen? Chow will send the Zoom recording and notes within 1 week. Reminder to write down member ideas.

Jennifer Showed the info flier about Proposition 1 - Environmental Bond Fund and asked for Task Force support – through SM and Letter to the Editor. EG this will help fund the sewer. Jennifer will send a draft to Rhiannon. Chris reminded that this is just HELP – residents will still need to contribute.

The joint Town / Village CAP meeting had good questions and comments. (See meeting notes from 8_30.) As a result, Phil moved landfill emissions measuring and possible treatment earlier in the timeline. Ralph asked, “What is a Tonne of Co2E?”. A tonne, also known as a metric Ton, is equal to 1000kg, (or 2,204.6 pounds). Chow will send info to Rhiannon for a SM post

Chowed a Proclamation from Sue Serino – given to Task Force congratulating us on Bronze.

Andrew updated about Village Solar. Jennifer said the ball got dropped as there is staff turnover. Mayor Jenn is now in charge.

Chow showed a clip from a webinar the (part of the intro at Minute 6:15). Wetland and Watercourse Protection: Lessons from Three Hudson Valley Towns and an Update on Changes to State Wetland Policy DEC Sept 14, Ingrid Haeckel at: ingrid.haeckel@dec.ny.gov
It explains that for Every 1-degree Celsius increase in global average temperature, the atmosphere can hold 7X more moisture. We already have the first 1 degree since industrialized time: we’ve seen 70 % more rain in recent heaviest rain events than in the 1950’s. An additional increase of 2 – 10 degrees is projected.

<https://meetny.webex.com/recordingservice/sites/meetny/recording/9dc7df70167c103bb7e2005056819ebc/playback?rcdKey=4832534b00000005caa4000d1402bc04c1ce68b643cb48dc65e7a60b57a3fa5f3837cc49499090d3&timeStamp=1663683965116&reviewId=416106262>

Planning for Emergencies

Andrew had previously raised this issue and it is now a priority. Using the Vulnerability Study CSC action is a great working template (though we won't actually be submitting action).

Chris will lead with Andrew and Chow. First steps are to review priorities from the Comp Plan and CSRP. For example, the CSRP Gap Analysis highlights (under Disaster Preparedness and Recovery) "Get recognized as a Storm Ready Community". The full summary report has detail and lots of links. Rich will be adding the report to the CSC website. Chris said another first step is to look at the existing (old and outdated) Town Disaster Preparedness binder and decide what we want from the Fire Dept. and American Legion (before involving them). Chris had worked on it years ago with then Village Trustee Josh Schultz. He's a valuable partner, on the Fire Department, and was also involved in the Road Stream Crossing Vulnerable Populations section of the report done with NECC. Deborah said she and Paul just signed up for the Medical Reserve Corp and will be taking 3 courses. She will update us as she learns more.

<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Emergency-Response/Medical-Reserve-Corps-MRC.htm>

Earth Day 2023 Work in Progress Plans

Chris V. shared an outline. The team so far is Chris V, Claire, Deborah, Cathy Fenn, Lisa Erdner, Melissa Mercou, Michele Ferraro, and Mayor Jenn. They have had 2 meetings
Working Theme: Get your Green On / What's your Green? The current plan is to stay at Millerton Inn, maybe looping in Schoolhouse.

Programming ideas include: Craft Shed (re-skilling), Kids Creation Station, Webutuck involvement. "What's Your Green?" activities: recording green habits, Green Challenge: make a commitment = get a button, QR treasure hunt. Vendor Booths about homes and energy saving, like the Central Hudson table in 2022. Local farms. Concert (at the church?) funded by ticket sales. Food and drink around town as well as Millerton Inn's stand. Presentation at the Moviehouse with a speaker (but likely NOT on the 22nd). Could be a partnership with Cary (Katherine Weathers is our contact). Cornell and DLC are also speaker sources. Jennifer will also investigate Salisbury Forum as they have a great audience. As in the past, the Library and Oblong can be included. Speaker suggestions welcome.

The Goal is to Step it up from last year. Raise the bar!. Become THE Earth Day event.

Eventually we can loop in neighboring towns. The Communications guide (on DropBox) will be updated to include a wider circle for events such as Earth Day Webinars. E.g. loop in Dutchess Tourism and Chronogram. Rhinebeck is a good example of effective marketing and collaborations.

We will need a budget – Chris estimates \$5000.

Task Force Suggestions are encouraged! Especially about getting money.

Please Contact Chris V. with thoughts and suggestions.

SM update: Rhiannon said the \$5 Lightbulb post got the most traffic ever. 😊 Next month: Jennifer's fridge removal story with \$100 payment and Central Hudson contact info. Reposts for fall e.g., Road Salt. Deborah will write a blurb about Anti-idling; finding ways to educate people (nicely).

EV Charger update: Jennifer said CH is putting in a new pole. Possible install next week! She and others will keep a diary including pictures. Rhiannon reminded that people love "what's going on" posts. E.g., why is traffic being tied up.

Electric vehicles update: Andrew warned of bad reports about EV F150. Towing really diminished the charge. Yikes!! Bad heads up. That's the one on our HW Dept. wish list and a year 1 CAP priority.

Deborah is looking for an IN with Craig and Patrick at Webutuck. Rhiannon has some insights and announced that on a Monday in November (she will advise Deborah) there will be a public community meeting at Maplebrook with the Supervisor. The schools want to partner. (Webutuck will also likely attend the regular Nov 9 Library meeting.)

Chow explained we will submit for Village Bronze in April because we can have CCE help with an assessment. Their help starts in January. Therefore the (hard) Deadline is March.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:35

Next meeting: Nov 17.

Dropbox Link - <https://www.dropbox.com/home/North%20East%20Millerton%20CSC>

Actions Portal - <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/>



Climate Smart Community Task Force Meeting Notes November 17, 2022

5:30–6:30 pm ZOOM

Present: Kathy Chow, Rhiannon Leo-Jamison, Chris Virtuoso, Andrew Stayman, Deborah Maier, Chris Kennan, Claire Goodman, Rich Stalzer

Absent: Jennifer Dowley, Matthew Hartzog, Laurie Kerr, Griffin Cooper, Carrissa Whitehead

New members At the November Town Board Meeting Chris K officially appointed new members Claire and Deborah to the CSC. The CAP and Policies and Procedures plans were also adopted.

HVA Chow announced that – Claire Wegh replaced Amanda at Housatonic. The first meeting for the Ten Mile River Collaborative will be in January 2023. Chris K and Chow will talk with her about specific town projects included in the plan.

Millerton News ran a front-page article and letter that included CSC news. They're a great supporter of ours. Christine Bates is looking for writers. Deborah will contact her.

Jen Metzger talk Chow reported that the Environmental Bond Fund passed. Jen Metzger (new Ulster Co Exec) will update about [Prop 1 and the CLCPA on Nov. 29](#) and how towns can take advantage. Zoom 10:30 – noon. All are invited. <https://hvcan.org/events/27993>.

Holiday Mixer HVCAN will hold a [Dec 15 4 – 7PM Holiday Mixer](#): Rich & Deborah are interested. <https://hvcan.org/events/27533>

Village Water Bill The subject for an insert in the Village Water Bill for Q1 2023 was discussed. Best plan is a 2 sided SIMPLE card - in Spanish too. One side will be about Road Salt, one about 'save the date for Earth Day and Bulk Trash Day'. We can schedule BTM anytime as no electronics will be collected this time. Best to set the date soon after Earth Day so we can promote it then too (BTM needs a BIG PR push. Q2 water bill will be about Earth Day. Claire will introduce salting education to businesses at the MBA meeting. New concrete sidewalks shouldn't have excessive and corrosive salt.

Earth Day Planning: (next meeting will be Friday). Chris V is pursuing names from last year's list and others through the director of communications at Cary – starting with 'save the date' to see who can be available. Kat Wethers is a forest ecologist. Her partner, Vet. Michele Farrar is on the ED committee. Cary has a bug and invasives display that could be shown on Earth Day.

Webutuck Deborah is working on a Writers and Poets project. She said the Webutuck Superintendent and the HS Principal Robert Knuschke are very supportive. TBD if it would be within the curriculum or a 'club'. She will report back when they respond.

Repair Café Deborah went to the Repair Café in Rhinebeck. Takeaways: it takes time to get up to speed so starting small at Earth Day makes sense. Some coaches go from event to event, perhaps a few could come to Earth Day. Tom had worked on it before. Needs volunteers and a minimum of 3 – 4 different fixit guys to. E.g., Lamp repair, small appliances (even a lawyer). There IS a CSC action the Village can get points for.

Village Solar Andrew said it is on hold because of staff turnover. (The new clerk is Nicole Richard.) He will follow up with Jenn.

Social Media Rhiannon - this month's SM. Post about EV charger install got the most hearts ever. She has a good backlog for December including Jennifer's fridge story.

Planning for Emergencies. Chris K showed the Municipal Emergency Operations Plan binder (for major emergencies). He's working with the Village, Fire District and Town. Once he has a draft (e.g., people and gear updated but procedural stuff will stay the same), we'll help work on the town's capabilities. It's mostly municipal preparedness, not "public", so Andrew proposed a 'neighborhood' approach for when help can't get to cut off residents. Disaster scenario: tornado touches down at old HW garage, wipes out NECC, Main Street and Town Hall. How to deal with that? Andrew wants to set up networks so the general public can be self-reliant, a voluntary opt-in neighborhood checklist. It will start with a map (Chow will ask K. Johnson). Chris K recalled when County Emergency Operations came a few years back. They gave out backpacks and tips – but only 3 people came. The challenge will be to get the word (and the urgency) out. It can be a component of Earth Day (a booth to sign up) but we also need a wider crowd than the self-selecting Earth Day crowd. The Q2 Water bill is another chance. We also need to jazz up the stuff on our site – it's too dry.

Chris K – Landfill update. Talked to Partridge Venture Engineering who will measure methane. Chris also wants to ID engineers to assess the condition of Landfill. He wants an 'inspector'. (DEC guy David Pollock was Kelly Turturro's landfill expert. He would know the players that can do that.) Any deal with a developer will be exploratory, cancelable by town or solar operator. It's like a house inspection: e.g., if the landfill is not properly capped to accommodate panels, or too far from 'interconnect' line capacity there's no obligation. Right now, the State has \$\$ incentives. We don't want to miss the window. Chris wants to hear all sides. He talked with the neighbor. We need to prove that whatever we're contemplating is safe.

Example of CCA: Kingston will host a Zoom Webinar to provide an overview of THEIR [community choice aggregation program](#). **December 7th** from 12:00-1:00pm and from 6:30-7:30pm <https://www.kingston-ny.gov/news/?FeedID=1742>

Deborah wants to get rooftop solar and seeks names of good installers. Chris will ask other supers for what they've heard. Andrew said Barbara Clayton and her neighbors have panels and could comment.

EV Charger – Stay tuned - it's Coming soon! Andrew will regroup with Barbara Clayton to arrange for her car to come for a ribbon cutting. We'll have a Big Party!

Links

Andrew told about a video of a chemist who created leaded fuel AND CFC's.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IV3dnLzthDA> He will do a SM story WITH graph showing introduction of leaded gas and the resulting crime wave.

Deborah mentioned a good post about how to talk about doubter. Ezra Klein asked McKibben some tough questions as from the POV of the nonbelievers, and the NIMBY syndrome...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VYaZV_o3xw

The transcript of same and an audio link:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/15/podcasts/transcript-ezra-klein-interviews-bill-mckibben.html>

Meeting adjourned at 6:35

Next Task Force Meeting: December 15

Dropbox Link - <https://www.dropbox.com/home/North%20East%20Millerton%20CSC>

Actions Portal - <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/>



Climate Smart Community Task Force Meeting

December 15, 2022 5:30 - 6:30

All Present: Chris Kennan, Kathy Chow, Rich Stalzer, Laurie Kerr, Andrew Stayman, Rhiannon Leo-Jameson, Chris Virtuoso, Deborah Maier. Absent: Matt Herzog, Griffen Cooper
Minutes were approved from Nov 17, Oct. 20, Sept. 14, 2022, Aug 30 Joint CAP meetings

EV Charger - The EV Charger is finally in operation after 3 years of effort – thanks to Jennifer and Andrew! Chow showed screenshots from the December 15 ribbon cutting, the ChargePoint app, and Mayor Jenn in Barbara Clayton's EV Mustang, driven by Andrew who compares the acceleration to a 500 hp car. The charge rate is 35cents / kwh. And \$5 per hour after charging to encourage drivers to free up for other customers. Chow showed gov't plans to put high speed chargers on highways every 50 miles. Rt 87 and 84 will be our closest corridors. Griffen, now on the staff, will supply the Newspaper announcement and photo. Rhiannon will post on social media, Rich will put it in Green news. Jenn and Chow will write a Main Street article for the February issue which can become a permanent web entry.

Sewer Update - Erin from Tighe & Bond presented at the December Town Meeting. Next steps are for the town to establish a Sewer District along Rt 44 to the Ct Line and make an Intermunicipal Agreement with Millerton. T&B will continue with planning steps such as Existing Conditions. Laurie explained we will need grants of at least 50% of the almost \$14 million to make it viable; to help offset construction and ongoing resident/commercial costs for the small number who will pay for and use it. Laurie warns that though there IS money out there (lots), competing towns have court orders to fix things, so they will get preference. Costs will be allocated: 82% Village / 18% Town. Slides from the presentation showed a map of the site and the structures. Parcels will still have onsite (retained or replaced) septic tanks. Effluent, minus solids, will be pumped to the treatment facility beyond South Center Street, processed, and discharged into the Webutuck. The system is sized for 70K gallons per day with growth capacity to 250k. Best case (though unlikely) operational opening is beginning 2025. Ed Downey said at the meeting that this should be considered a housing and economic development project, not just wastewater treatment.

Gov't Green Incentives - Jen Metzger gave a great talk about Gov't support of going green: updates on the CLCPA and more. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFLOzdWKI_U
The Inflation Reduction Act (Federal) is generous for households and small businesses. Laurie explained that the proposed NY State regulations (from the Recently passed Environmental Bond Act) are being considered but are controversial. We don't know how strict they will end up being or dates, but the direction clear (e.g., future fossil fuel ban for new construction and more.) These goals are relevant for our Earth Day – e.g., encouraging residents to upgrade gear as it needs replacement. Laurie recommends also considering these requirements for dense districts or for special use permits that are not as-of-right. She reminded us that our state has the cleanest grid in the country so going electric in NY State is especially effective in decreasing GHG.

Landfill solar update

Chris and Chow attended a meeting of Friends of Coleman Station Historic District. Chris stated that the process for a possible solar array is moving forward, currently waiting for review by town lawyer. The town has been given a proposal from a company to investigate feasibility. The Coleman Station neighborhood is divided between (majority) supporting the idea and neighbor resistance. Expressed concerns are not just the view but whether the landfill was constructed and capped properly, if the cap and dirt on top are suitable for an array and the machinery to construct and maintain it, and if there is nasty leachate polluting the water table. Chris prioritizes all the concerns. Next steps (along with testing what the actual emissions are and discussing construction with a DEC contact recommended by a neighbor) are inspecting the cap and suitability as per DEC requirements. The Town will likely hire an independent expert to review that report. Electric that would be generated goes onto the grid. TBD if the operator cuts a check to the town (simple) or if a group of people sign up to get a reduction on electric bills (more complicated and involves Central Hudson). Goal is to sign a contract in the first half of 2023. Chris says that rather than screening it completely, it's an opportunity to put signage on the rail trail explaining how it works.

Green Power Procurement

The town committed to buy Green Electricity per our 2021 resolution. Apparently, suppliers are now more able to provide the right product. Next step: revisit Eleanor's draft RFP. Rich said the state awards contracts to vendors through OGS services. We might be able to order off that system. Andrew said the Village EV Charger used a process (possibly that one) without putting out an RFP. Team: Andrew, Laurie, Rich, Chow will work on recommendations for the town.

CAP Updates – Landfill Methane - Chris K said he is contracting with a company to measure actual emissions to determine next steps. TBD if the quantity justifies treatment. He has now learned that the landfill was decommissioned 7 years earlier than it was capped. Our CAP (incorrectly) uses estimates from the capped date. BUT the bottom line (that it's a big % of GHG emissions) is unlikely to change. A > 5% difference in conclusions triggers a change to the CAP.

CAP Updates - Tracking Energy Usage - Andrew / Lorna will annually enter energy usage (electric, gas, oil) data into Benchmarking and Portfolio Manager tools according to processes established in our 2021 resolutions. Portfolio manager's carbon coefficient has been updated by Energy Star to calculate from the collection date (not the analysis date) We'll have both on our site. Our ICLEI contract (for the CSC GHG action) is finished. The PE10 GHG Tracking Tool is the ongoing system. Fleet inventory info gets tracked by Bob Stevens (including with plows off & on in May and November) and gets reported to the Town Board Sept 30 along with the next year plan. Andrew will assemble annual steps to be taken so Tilly can make a Reminders Calendar for Municipal Staff, Green Team, and Task Force.

Water Bill enclosure. - First quarter message will be a save the date for Bulk Trash Day and a reduce Road Salt message. Bills are mailed the first week of each quarter. Chris V said they have a sheet we can add to. We supply the clerk with a blurb. He will check in with the Village Clerk

Road Salt - Chow made a 1-minute Road Salt video – it's on our home page and Social Media. The Winter Salt web section is updated. Cary's Road Salt chart lists alternatives but all have drawbacks, including sand as it clogs culverts and drains adding \$\$\$ road department cleanouts. Chris K will check in with Bob about brine. Bob has talked with Rhinebeck about their system. Laurie said Cole should be in that discussion too.

Village Solar - Jenn has a plan to fix the array. The three rows will now be connected to 1 new inverter. Timing and steps TBD. We will design an educational sign and do PR per the CSC action. Andrew has drafts.

Earth Day plans - Chris V will present a tight agenda and calendar at our next meeting. Main focus will be what happens on the lawn. WIP theme is Get your Green On, highlighting Home Efficiency, Sustainable Buying Decisions, Local Food and a Green Challenge (about making commitments). For Local food, Cathy Fenn will coordinate with 52, Oakhurst, Millerton Inn (no food trucks). The committee is considering a larger event for the evening before e.g., a concert / fundraising. Rhiannon: Library can co-present with Cary (Laurie, communications director, and Kat Weathers to be looped in) at Library Annex or Moviehouse. Deborah: Webutuck Student activities in Science, Art, English departments including Poetry Slam for Jenna Garofalo's English classes, maybe with kids from other districts. Chow: Energy Advisors as exhibitors and for signing people up for advice: New Yorkers for Clean Power free 45-Minute Energy Coaching Session via Zoom or phone with the Clean Energy Coaches <https://nyforcleanpower.org/cleanenergycoaching/> and NYSERDA <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Residential-Energy-Assessment-Programs>. Chris V. and Andrew: weave in the bigger food picture: conserving topsoil, farmland. What's available in the food chain with climate change. Deborah: The Schaghticoke group are working on agro-food-forestry; ask them to participate? Chris V will ask for volunteers next meeting. We need to sign people up in January and start advertising in February.

Millerton News - Millerton News editors want the Jan. 5 issue to be a recap of major stories of the year. Deborah is collection suggestions to relay to them.

Science based info - CSC makes a distinction between factual information and fun social media. As an 'arm of the town' we need to be careful of unintended consequences. We should use gov't and educational institutions as sources that have irrefutable info. Pop science can be appropriate for fun social media but only if it's presented as personal stories with qualified sources.

Grants - Webinar about sources with Kristen Wilson of RUPCO
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IEhpGAF2IU>

To-Do List - Andrew will make an ACTION ITEMS spreadsheet of next steps for all 😊