

Saugerties Conservation Advisory Commission

January 17, 2019

6:00 pm

Town Hall Rear Conference Room

MINUTES

I CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE

Attendees: Mary O'Donnell, chair; Town Board Liaison Mike MacIsaac, Patti K, Janet A, Mike H, Susan M, Steve W, Jim M, Mary Anne W, Skip A, Carole F, Leslie S, Mark S, Elizabeth S, Mary M.; Vernon B.

Special Guests: Europa McGovern, NYSERDA CEC Coordinator; Mark Smith, Chamber of Commerce Co-chair.

Europa presented on the CSC Certification status, noting the July 2019 deadline to accumulate sufficient points to qualify for certification. She felt that the progress in Saugerties to date suggests the possibility of applying as early as April. The status of the points accumulation was reviewed.

- Patti Kelly presented on the Saugerties Greenhouse Gas inventory, an extraordinary achievement by all accounts and a key component of the CSC Certification effort. This inventory forms the basis for the creation of the Climate Action Plan.

Mark Smith gave an update on the C of C's collaboration with the Task Force for a May 4 public event—

- Mark brought the event to the Saugerties Chamber of Commerce (CoC) board who supported it.
- There is a need to identify suppliers – solar, wind, geothermal, EV, sustainable food packaging, etc.
- We will hopefully have up to 25 or 30 suppliers.
- The CofC would promote the event. Times of noon – 4 pm were discussed.
- Should there be a speaker? Most agreed it would be too confusing
- Mark S: There should be a directory printed to hand out to attendees
- Mike H. suggested that an informational video should be available
- Ideas for a title: “Climate Smart Expo – Go Green”

Update: Shade Structures in Public Places Policy developed by Mary O'Donnell was discussed Motion to recommend that the board adopt the Shade Structures in Public Places Policy was approved.

Adjourn: 7:37 pm

II REGULAR CAC BUSINESS 7:40 pm

Attendees: Mary O, Mike M, Mike H, Steve W, Jim M, Mary Anne W, Skip A, Carole F, Leslie S, Elizabeth S, Mary M; Vernon B.

Election of Officers: Chair and Vice Chair

- Mary O'Donnell was nominated chair - unanimous
- Mike Harkavy was nominated vice-chair - unanimous

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of December and November were approved.

Old Business

Update: Meeting to discuss Proposal by Glenn Sullivan, Solitude Lake Management

- There was much discussion about invasive species in the Esopus Creek
- An Invasive Species Grant Program was discussed

Community Choice Aggregation Proposal

- Vernon spoke – CCAs are being promoted – there are a number of groups managing CCAs - Joule Energy, Mega, Good Energy. It is hard to get town, village governments to agree.
- Bluestone Energy/Geronimo project on Churchland Road will be 20 Mw. Saugerties uses 37 Mw. Saugerties could start their own CCA; it's under discussion.
- The town plans to pass a local law enabling the Town to establish a CCA.

Letter in Support of Greenway Grant for Shade Structure at Terpening Memorial Park

- Mary O. drafted a letter to send to the board.
Motion to approve – unanimous

Town Board Liaison Report

- Mike M reported that Janet A, Steve W and Vivian B were appointed to the CSC Task Force at the last board meeting.

Planning Board Report

- Carol F reported two new solar systems are being requested by Solar Generation. There will be public hearings at next month's Planning Board meeting.

New Business

Vernon suggested that a letter of endorsement for an upcoming Greenway grant proposal for the Saugerties Power Boat Association be considered. A discussion followed. The CAC did not take a position on this.

Adjournment – 8:30 pm