

Conservation Advisory Commission Meeting

April 16, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Online Zoom © Meeting

MINUTES

I CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE start 6:00 pm

Meeting conducted online via Zoom © due to COVID 19 “social distancing” requirements

Present: Mary O'Donnell, Mike Harkavy, Elizabeth Shafer, Leslie Surprenant, Patti Kelly, Skip Arthur, Steve Wehr, Nicole Roskos, Mary Ann Wrolsen, Mary McNamara

Town Board Liaison John Schoonmaker, Special Operations Coordinator Vernon Benjamin

Assistant Special Operations Coordinator Kathleen Gray

Guests: Jeff Domanski and Glenn Weinberg, Joule (Community Choice Aggregate administrator), Jim Mays

Community Choice Aggregate (CCA) – Jeff Domanski, Hudson Valley Community Power, and Glenn Weinberg of Joule presented a slide show information on CCAs. Joule is a company that administers CCA programs. CCAs are among 10 actions identified under NYS Energy Research and Development Agency (NYSERDA). CCAs allow local governments to procure clean energy power on behalf of their residents, businesses, and municipal accounts from an alternative supplier while still receiving transmission and distribution service from their existing utility. Public benefits include the potential for cost savings while purchasing clean energy from sources within New York State. New York's clean energy targets, authorized under a 2019 law, are 70% in 2030 and 100% in 2050.

Green Fleet Policy John Schoonmaker reported that the vehicle idling policy was incorporated into the vehicle use policy and is under the town's legal review.

Announcements Two upcoming online events were announced: The Saugerties Climate Task Force and Common Energy on behalf of East Light Partners will present a public information session on the Saugerties Community Solar Farm on April 22nd; “Get Pumped” public information session for heat pumps Co-sponsored by Sustainable Hudson Valley and the task Force will be held April 30 via Zoom.

II Regular Business 7:40 pm

Approval of Minutes from February 21, 2020 and March 19 meetings – approved.

Esopus Creek Updates – John Schoonmaker updated the CAC on the partnership between the town and village on purchase and use of a used aquatic vegetation harvester. The cost split is 1/4 (\$12,600) for the town, 1/4 (\$12,600) for the village with the remaining 1/2 being donated by a local private company.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm