

Saugerties Conservation Advisory Commission

I CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE

Participants – Mike Harkavy, Leslie Surprenant, Mary O'Donnell, Elizabeth Shafer, Patti Kelly, Steve Wehr, Carole Furman, Kathleen Gray, Marcus Arthur, Maryann Wrolson.

Approval of June 17, 2021 Task Force Minutes - Approved

Community Solar: Saugerties/Solarize Ulster – Town of Olive's completed and approved solarize recruitment plan is not detailed. Mary will review draft scoping doc. CAC will reduce the scope of the Town of Saugerties plan, distribute information fliers, and recruit 10 participants. Program will launch via two online public Zoom meetings. Patti will draft outreach for Lighthouse TV 23. Timeframe will be 1 month outreach for Community Solar and will begin when CCA (Community Choice Aggregation) outreach ends to avoid overlap and reduce confusion. If Town Board passes its resolution of support at its next meeting on 8/11, outreach will be 8/16 – 9/16. Skip and Patti will compile list of potential questions and answers. Focus must be on public's questions and accurate information.

CCA Outreach – Town's website will provide information on the Solarize Saugerties / Ulster program. Goal is to encourage residents to purchase renewable energy and stay in the program even if costs are somewhat higher than Central Hudson's default energy source blend. The questions / answers on the program Mary and Patti compiled should be posted. Mary will discuss with Joule contact. Joule's proposed poster/flier requires edits. Online public outreach will be on July 29 and August 4 by Zoom. Attendance is expected to be low.

Clean Energy Community – Town has accumulated and documented 3100 points on toward qualification to apply for grants, pending NYSEDA (NYS Energy Research and Development Agency) approval. Town wants to use \$10K grant for a more efficient ice arena chiller. Once approved, Town will have 90 days to complete and submit a grant application. Project eligibility depends on how many tons C emission eliminated per 10,000 population. Patti and Carole can retrieve information needed from GHG (Greenhouse Gas) inventory. Projects need to be ready to start within 6 months of grant award. 26 grants of \$10K and 1 grant of \$20K grant are remain available. 88 grants remain for Stretch, a model energy code that communities may adopt and implement.

Town Board Liaison Report: (Note – this is normally delivered during the regular CAC meeting) Bench marking - Carole not working on benchmarking (comparison of electricity use / GHG releases each year compared to baseline established in 2017) until Town has benchmarking policy because town will have to complete the work.

Letter in Support of Grant for the Chiller – TF members approved Mary's draft letter. Mary will send letter.

Adjournment 6:07

II. CAC REGULAR BUSINESS -

Participants: Mike Harkavy, Leslie Surprenant, Mary O'Donnell, Elizabeth Shafer, Carole Furman, Kathleen Gray, Marcus Arthur, Maryann Wrolson, John Schoonmaker

Approval of June 17, 2021 Minutes - approved

Letter in Support of Playground Grant – Greg Chorvas asked CAC to support. CAC will write letter of support if there is an environmental benefit to project. Mary will discuss with Greg and will send a letter of support if there is some environmental benefit in the project such as use of recycled materials, planting native trees and/or shrubs, education programs, etc.

Planning Board Report – Carole – this meeting is prior to July P.B. meeting. The Zoning Board meeting had public hearings for a proposed Starbucks on 212 where old Dairy Queen was; needs sidewalk variance – project proposal was approved. A new cell tower (Tarpon Tower) is proposed on Industrial Rd (near Glasco Tpke.)

Town Board Liaison Report:

Milfoil Harvesting Schedule – No information

Milfoil Harvesting Survey Presentation to Village Board – John S has not communicated with Village. Will send email on topic to Village. Include question about whether DEC permit to harvest vegetation has been obtained.

CAC reported its concern about poor audio for online / in-person hybrid Town Board meetings.

Remaking playground where Small World is – will not be wood and will be smaller (subject of letter of support request by Greg Chorvas.)

Stretch code – not on July agenda for Town Board – other higher priorities. Need to act soon to have opportunity to get a grant (\$5K). John S will assure it is on August agenda.

Benchmarking - John Schoonmaker – will have on Board's August 11 agenda. Has resolution on benchmarking to present to board.

Adjournment – 6:41