

Saugerties Conservation Advisory Commission

April 18, 2024, Zoom Video Conferencing

MINUTES

CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE 5:00 pm Start

Present: Mary O'Donnell, Leslie Surprenant, Skip Arthur, Carole Furman, Elizabeth Shafer, Kathleen Gray, Nicole Roskos

Approval of March 21, 2024 Minutes

Mary so moved, Carole seconded. The motion passed.

CEC Grant Project

Mary announced the achievement of 5,000 points leading to the question of the grant project and suggestions to the Town Board to consider. It was decided previously to use a pre-approved project rather than a custom project.

The group discussed applying for a \$100,000 CEC grant to fund electric vehicles, charging stations, or the senior center solar canopy. They agreed to have Kathleen follow up with the town and departments to determine greenhouse gas reduction estimates for different project options to select the best proposal. Skip mentioned how sourcing EV for the town was problematic in the past.

Kathleen mentioned how NYSERDA would be drastically cutting the available funding.

Mary said her understanding was there were deadlines for application for the grant, from a 90 day window for submitting a proposal and 3 years to implement the project. It was agreed that a solar project, including storage batteries, would be difficult to achieve in that time frame and on budget.

Kathleen noted that the evaluation criteria for projects include a Greenhouse Gas Emissions reductions of one ton per year per \$10,000 spent.

Kathleen agreed to talk with the Town Supervisor to get input from department heads for suggestions.

CSC Must Revise Update

Skip reported on the PE5 recycling event. He forwarded picture of it to Mary. For PE3 he had pictures of the outdoor lighting that he thinks will satisfy the requirements. Mary said she would upload the pictures to the portal.

EMC Report

Leslie reported that there was no meeting last month and so no report.

Town Board Liaison Report

Zach was not present. No report.

Planning Board Report

Carole said the developer for the Villa project has revised the plans. Revised plans have not yet been submitted to the Planning Board.

Commented [Ma1]: Suggested rewording.

Announcements

Mary announced the Bronze certification by the CSC. There is an understanding that the PSC will not fund the CEC from 2026 ~~until~~ thru 2030. Grant money is expected to run out by 2025.

Mary said that Fred had requested Zach and a member of the CAC attend a meeting on April 29 regarding the CCA. Skip said he would attend.

Kathleen said that Partners for Climate Action had offered a \$4,000 grant to publicize the work done at the Kiwanis Ice Arena. Mary mentioned that Zach had informed the CAC that the new Zamboni at the arena was 100% electric.

Adjournment

Mary moved with Elizabeth seconding. Motion passed.

II. CAC REGULAR BUSINESS

Present: Mary O'Donnell, Skip Arthur, Carole Furman, Elizabeth Shafer, Kathleen Gray, Nicole Roskos

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Discussion: Development, Water Supply, Water Protection Comments

Mike was putting together a letter to the Town Board and requested input. It was agreed that the subject be discussed with Fred at the next full meeting.

DEC Water Source Protection Plan Proposal

The group discussed a DEC offer to present on developing a water source protection plan. Mary announced she will draft a memo recommending the town board hear a presentation from the DEC on the water source protection plan. This free technical support could help the town with future water infrastructure plans and funding applications.

Pollinator Garden Update

Leslie reported an outbreak of Japanese Knot Weed. Perennials will need to be purchased and planted. It was unsure if the Boys and Girls Club be available for assistance. There was discussion about signage and a possible kiosk.

Announcements

No announcements

Adjournment

Leslie moved, Elizabeth seconded. Approved

Adjournment at 6:35pm

Prepared by: Kevin Freeman, Secretary