

Saugerties Conservation Advisory Commission

February 16, 2023 Zoom Video Conferencing

MINUTES

CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE 5:00 pm Start

Present: Mary O'Donnell, Elizabeth Shafer, Mike Harkavy, Ken Goldberg, Mary McNamara, Mary Anne Wrolsen, Nicole Roskos, Leslie Surprenant, Patti Kelly, Carole Furman, Zach Horton

Guests: MidHudson Energy Transition Group - Emily Mano, Marcy Cleveland, Dana Hall

Presentation on CCA Mid-Hudson Energy Transition Dana gave a presentation on MHET highlighting the Advanced CCA 3.0 concept. She explained that they partner with PowerMarket as technical advisors and for customer enrollment.

CCA 1.0 was presented as the initial attempts in the 1990s to leverage bulk purchasing power in the market. Enhanced CCA 2.0 added the ability to build or own renewable assets, specifically in California.

Advanced CCA 3.0 added

- Community renewable
- Building and transportation
- Distributed Energy resources
- Wealth building opportunities

One target was community engagement utilizing a technology platform to provide consumers with a personal portal.

The CCA process is as follows: An authorization from the Public Service Commission (Months 1-3), outreach and sourcing (Months 4-6), launch (Months 7-8) and post launch (Months 9 and onward).

Mary asked about the relationship between MHET and the City of Kingston. Dana replied that MHET was serving as administrator, although Kingston does have a liaison.

Mike asked how MHET might act as a consultant for private development. It was agreed that MHET's technical committee could act as a resource.

Elizabeth asked about the application of the Stretch code for new construction. Dana said MHET advocates for Stretch.

Mary asked if the City of Kingston was considering other administrators. Dana said perhaps three were in consideration.

Mary asked if MHET was pushing the PSC to authorize the opt-out condition and Dana agreed that is a priority.

Mary asked if there could be a cap on pricing as Westchester has done. Dana said the order says that is in effect for all administrators.

Mike asked if MHET is in touch with Ulster County. He was told they cannot work directly with counties, but there were discussions in getting municipalities to consolidate as a holding entity.

H2M Proposal to Provide Assessment of Winston Farm Aquifer and Aquifer Zones There was discussion of the H2M proposal for the Winston Farm aquifer impact. Zach replied that it was somewhat ambiguous in the proposal. The developers had hired H2M to review the data, evaluate and make recommendations.

Mary asked if the review would be based on existing documentation. Zach said that it would be limited to what the developers provide.

Ken had concerns about the wording of the H2M proposal and it was agreed that Adrianna should be brought into the conversation for clarification.

Mary asked who would be paying the \$14,000 fee to H2M and Zach said it was the town's responsibility.

There were serious concerns about the compressed timeline and if H2M would be able to process the data expediently.

Ken brought up the H2M contract saying the review was scheduled to take place over three to four weeks. Mike said it sounded like a cursory review of existing materials. He asked Zach to investigate and provide more clarity.

CAP Annual Report 2021 for Government Operations Mary introduced Patti Kelly to speak on the report. Patti explained that all data for Greenhouse Gas Emissions were estimated because Central Hudson was missing data for some accounts. She added that water and sewer records were most problematic without making estimates.

It was suggested that the Town Board write a letter to Central Hudson requiring the data for all the accounts. Mary asked the group if that should be amended to the annual report. Zach said that he would make the recommendation. After the CAC agreed, Patti said she would draft a letter.

CSC Actions Review Mary stated that the Climate Smart certification was up for review, with a dozen expired already and one under review.

Mary suggested members agree to resolve expired items, go to the portal and upload whatever documentation is required.

Planning Board Report was given by Carole. She mentioned that the Terramor developers have declined to proceed. She said there were also neighborhood concerns about The Villa project particularly regarding traffic.

Carole reminded the group that Adrianna has resigned from NVP.

Town Board Liaison Report (See H2M Proposal section above).

Adjournment Mike moved and Elizabeth seconded that the Task Force be adjourned. The motion passed.

CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION 6:05 pm Start

Present: Mary O'Donnell, Elizabeth Shafer, Mike Harkavy, Ken Goldberg, Mary McNamara, Mary Anne Wrolsen, Nicole Roskos, Leslie Surprenant, Carole Furman.

Approval of Minutes Mary moved to approve the November 2022 minutes, Ken seconded. The motion passed. Mike moved to accept the January 2023 minutes with Elizabeth as a second. The motion passed.

Tree Preservation Policy Nicole announced there was no tree preservation report as the meeting has been rescheduled for the following week.

Announcements Leslie announced preliminary approval for meadow grants were ongoing. Mary asked if the funding was assured and if a press release was warranted. Leslie said ground breaking wouldn't happen until November at the earliest.

Adjournment Mary moved to adjourn with Carole as second. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Prepared by: Kevin Freeman, Secretary