

Climate Smart Communities (CSC)

Task Force Meeting 1/19/2023

Present: Carol Smillie, Tim McHenry, Pat Odell, Tara Silberberg, Nancy Kuster

Haley Balcanoff of Capital Planning Group and Leah Cadwallader joined via zoom

Minutes from our last meeting 12/2/2022 were approved. (Nancy, Tara, vote all agree)

Of the actions that were discussed it was agreed participation in Columbia County Community Campaign should be a priority.

Community Campaign - Clean Heating & Cooling/Energy Efficiency – Heat pumps and geothermal outreach to provide education to residents. The Columbia County CSC is embarking on this outreach and we can likely “piggyback”. It will involve community outreach.

The town will be eligible for a Grant of \$5000 if 5 citizens join. It will involve preparing and submitting a scoping document followed by community outreach.

Haley will connect us with the County Liaison and provide draft for scoping document.

Other actions

The NRI joint grant with Copake was not approved. CAC will determine next steps.

Climate Vulnerability Assessment/Resiliency & Climate Adaptation Plan. Pat will work on this. Carol is currently also on the contact/zoom calls.

Community Solar was discussed. There are issues with the current service and billing the Central Hudson. We can look at providers through National Grid. Haley will send a list of Solar companies participating.

Comprehensive Plan is due to be presented to the town board and moving forward.

Explore options for **Bike and Walk space** on one side of County Roads. Tara will work on this. Haley said that there are grants for road planning and implementation (TAP, Transportation) CSC credit for bike/walking routes.

EV charging should be done with the new or renovated Town Hall. Where else? TIM - Get Fact Sheet for EV Grants. Contact Utility – National Grid fee assessment. DEC – assists \$ with Installation plus 2 years electric, fast charging. Attached to new building for charging reduces cost. (These notes are items to look into from my cryptic notes)

Haley is going to send us information to explore grants for the new town hall building. There are new construction grant Gallatin can apply as a small commercial building.