



## **Proposed Minutes of the November 7, 2018 Meeting Gardiner Town Hall**

**Task Force Members Present:** Jason Mayer, Kim Mayer, Mark Varian, Stephen Weir and Suger Rowinski.

**Task Force Members Excused:** Holly Shader, Rebecca Carucci, Franco Carucci and Aimee Spring-Cecil

**Non-Voting Members Present:** Councilperson David Dukler, Rick Irizari, Andi Weiss Bartegate

**Opening:** Jason opened the meeting. The prior meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

### **Old Business:**

1. **Plastic Bag Legislation.** Gardiner's Tracey Bartels legislation was approved and will go into effect next year. There were some exceptions to the original legislation. It was mentioned that New Paltz businesses and the New Paltz Climate Action Coalition are working on a project to give customers cloth bags. Shout out to all who wrote in support of this bill.

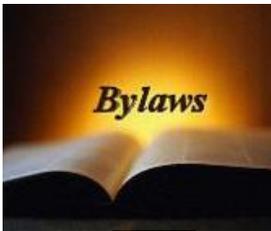


2. **Shawangunk.** Europa McGovern of the CPI Institute and Jason attended a Town Board meeting in Shawangunk and presented a briefing on the NYS DEC Climate Smart Communities program. The Shawangunk group held a meeting at the Hoot Owl; they are trying to get Trees for Tribes started. Some 10 people attended and planted trees.
3. **Wallkill River Festival.** Mark reported that the event was limited due to heavy rain. Nevertheless, several vendors showed up and answered questions from visitors.

4. Jason mentioned that Lisa Lindsay would be leaving the group due to other commitments.
5. **Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA).** Mark attended the training that was given. He reported that Minnewaska was breaking up areas to individuals to monitor. Mark said that this insect's behavior was unusual in that it attacked the hemlocks in winter. Minnewaska is working on treatment options as now they are relying on chemicals, which are not cheap. Tia will also be leaving the task force as her commitment to Minnewaska is over. We will attempt to recruit her replacement.
6. **Drawdown.** Mark indicated that Holly had attended the event at would report at a future meeting. The author's book is going into a 2<sup>nd</sup> edition.

### New Discussion and Updates on Projects:

1. **By-Laws:** Corrections to the proposed by-laws were made and approved. The Board agreed that a Recorder and an Alternate be assigned and approved Steve Weir and Mark Varian for those roles. The Board also agreed on the need for a Treasurer, however, no one was nominated.



2. **LEDs:** Jason reported that Aimee was still trying to get Central Hudson to provide specific numbers. Jason wondered if a Public Hearing was needed.
3. **Community Solar:** Jason reported that the Town Board needs to talk to NYSERDA lawyer about the program and clarify the issues preventing moving forward. The Town lawyer does not understand why the Town's competitive bidding process was not being used. This is not needed as NYSERDA already issued a contract and vetted the vendors. Jason indicated that we might have to re-apply for the grant again.
4. **EV Charging Station.** The issues regarding the siting of the installation have been worked out and the Library has issued approval but wants to see the final draft of the easement. **Update:** Steve and Dave Dukler are meeting on Tuesday Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> to have Steve review the easement for the needed hold harmless clauses. If they exist, he will sign the easement for the Library and make a copy



5. **Climate Smart Communities Portal:** Mark reported that we have completed the Government Greenhouse Inventory. Mark reported that Gardiner's government produces 205 tons of GHG annually and that 68% of it comes from the Highway Dept. fleet. Mark indicated that the next stage is communicating our findings to the Town Board and the public for comment. Steve is still waiting on getting the appointment letters finalized for posting to the portal. After the GHG inventory and the letters are finished, we need to find other projects, especially, as Mark mentioned, the development of the Town Climate Action Plan. At the

moment, work is underway on only 64 of the 120 points needed for Bronze certification, however, we have not completed a single point to date. Update: Here are some areas that we should consider next (some appear to just need documenting):

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Portal #</u>	<u>Points</u>
Government Operations Climate Action Plan	PE2	12
Incentives for Employee Transit and Carpooling	PE3	1
Recycling Bins in Government Buildings	PE5	3
Recycling Programs for Public Events and Places	PE5	1
Heat Emergency Plan	PE7	6
Climate Related Public Events	PE9	3
Local Climate Website	PE9	3

6. **Government Fleet Inventory.** Steve met with Brian Stiscia and conducted the inventory of the Government fleet. Brian provided information that Steve will construct into an EXCEL sheet. Steve will re-send it to Brian for confirmation.
7. **Composting.** Suger is working with New Paltz Recycling to see if Gardiner can sell composting bins to its residents via a bulk buy. The bins would allow a user to access the finished compost via a locked bottom compartment. There would be an opening at the top and the bin would be constructed of heavy-duty plastic. Suger believes we can obtain them from \$45 versus a much higher price at commercial realtors. This is an important initiative in PE5 and we have marked it as planned. (2 points)

**Closing Notes and Adjournment**

Mark mentioned that on November 29<sup>th</sup>, the NP Climate Action Committee will hold a Winterizing EXPO at St. Joseph’s from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The **next meeting** will be Wednesday, December 5th, 2018 at the Town Hall @ 7 p.m.



Submitted by Stephen Weir