



Minutes of the May 15, 2019 Meeting Gardiner Town Hall

Task Force Members Present: Jason Mayer, Kim Mayer, Mark Varian, Holly Shader, Rebecca Carucci, Franco Carucci, and Stephen Weir.

Task Force Members Excused. Suger Rowinski Aimee Spring-Cecil and Rick Irizari

Guests: Andrea Franz and Liz Elkin

Opening: Jason opened the meeting. The prior meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. He was happy with the Nexamp event on May 1st and noted that many of the groups there were really excited about pressing ahead with climate issues.

Old Business:

1. **CAPI Webinar.** Mark reported that the last meeting of the CAPI was held on Wednesday April 10th at the Esopus Town Hall. Seven groups presented their GHG inventories and other accomplishments. Gardiner's progress was highlighted. The NYS DEC and NYSERDA will also present.
2. **Riverkeeper Sweep** – 60 volunteers came out and the event was covered by the Wallkill Times. Rebecca spearheaded a remarkable cleansing of the Wallkill.
<https://view.joomag.com/wallkill-valley-times-may-01-2019/0855044001556676593>



Rebecca reported that the area in Wallkill NY needs more attention and that overall, the Jellystone campground is adding to our mess. There were over 2,000 participants throughout the Hudson Valley. Rebecca also mentioned that there is an on-line petition to expand the bottle deposit program to include non-carbonated drinks and wine and liquor bottles.

<https://www.riverkeeper.org/get-involved/take-action/>



4. Trees for Tribs. Rebecca announced that the State will send bushes and plants to prevent erosion. The event is planned for May 19th at 10 a.m. The area will be coned off when finished.

5. Cleanup on Rt 208. Rebecca advised that she needs large garbage bags for the Move Forward NY cleanup of Route 208.

New Business and Updates on Projects:

1. Community Choice Aggregation. Andrea and Liz from New Paltz updated CSG regarding progress being made in converting New Paltz over to a CCA. This would mean that the entire Town and Village would obtain its power from a sustainable source. Individual users could opt out. Liz covered the progress, which involves the Town passing a local law or resolution, then vetting and choosing a CCA administrator. The Administrator would then select a company that meets the town board's requirements to provide the power through Central Hudson. The public has to be informed. She noted that there may be some users that might not be able to participate due to their size, on demand usage and other factors. Contracts would be let on a 24 to 36-month basis. Jason is going to set up a meeting with the newly elected Ulster County Executive, Pat Ryan for May 29th at 9:30 a.m. (Note: since our meeting that meeting with Mr. Ryan has to be

rescheduled.) (Note: Jason also asked for participate in a webinar that Joule Inc. is presenting on May 21st. Franco and Steve signed up to attend)

2. **EV Charging Station.** Holly reported she is finalizing on the project and just needs signage to be approved by Marybeth.
3. **Climate Smart Communities Portal:** Steve mentioned that Mark and himself have been working on the portal and have developed a spreadsheet on progress. This sheet will advise our members of items needed in their areas to effect certification of that item. The spreadsheet will be sent out with the minutes.
4. **Government Operations Climate Action Plan.** Mark advised that he is working on that document and when finalized and edited, we will present it to the Town Board for adoption.
5. **501c3.** Jason mentioned that the Climate Coalition is willing to take us under their wing. We also have other options such as the New Paltz Foundation, which hosts the Gardiner Parks and Recreation. Jason presented these options to Marybeth and is waiting for her approval.



Closing Notes and Adjournment

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



Submitted by Stephen Weir