



## **Minutes of the December 4, 2019 Meeting Gardiner Town Hall**

**Task Force Members Present:** Jason Mayer, Mark Varian, Rick Irizari, Holly Shader, Franco Carucci, and Stephen Weir, Recording Sect.

**Task Force Members Excused.** Kim Mayer, Rebecca Carucci, Suger Rowinski and Aimee Spring-Cecil

**Guests In Attendance:** Lisa Munzer, Riley Brutvan, Francis Gonzalez and Briana Carlini.

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

- Jason mentioned that the County had held another CCA meeting attended by Holly, Mark Rick and himself. They are pushing to buy energy generated within a town's/county's infrastructure. The County is pushing to merge funding for community solar with battery storage. An inter-municipal staff is being contemplated rather than using Joule.
- New Paltz is going on-line with CCA in February.
- Enactment of the Gardiner's CCA law is expected to be introduced in January.

### **Old Business:**

- 1. Community Choice Aggregation.** Franco reported that the Town Board met in November and no serious objections were voiced. The Town attorneys provided excellent corrections. The matter will be on the Town agenda in December and is expected to be ready for a public hearing in January.
- 2. EV Charging Station.** Holly had previously advised that the Contractor tapped into the library power box and found no 220V availability. Steve met with Gavin of New Paltz Electrical and requested that he afford the committee with a bid proposal to run a 220V circuit to the box and hook up the connections.



3. **Climate Smart Communities Portal:** Steve updated the committee on the portal progress. On the Geothermal installation, Steve noted that the vendor that did the installation was not NYSERDA listed. We have reached out to Europa and she answered to see if we could find out who did the excavation as it is possible that they are listed. On the matter of assisting Schwangunk's Climate Action committee, Jason indicated that he would contact someone at that group for further documentation of our efforts.
4. **Government Operations Climate Action Plan.** Mark emailed the Committee the latest version of the plan. He again reiterated that a reduction in Government GHG would be very difficult. The plan is expected to be presented to the Town Board in January for approval.
5. **LED.** Mark indicated that working with Central Hudson is the best way to go but that some seed funding from the Town or the Committee is needed.
6. **Solar Array at the Recycling Center.** Jason coordinated with Mike of Parks and Recreation and reported there would not be a conflict with putting one up on the two acres of property. Jason needs a POC here and Rick indicated he would serve provided there is no conflict of interest. Jason wants to see if we possibly have a vendor who is well underway thru the current permit process.

#### **New Business:**

1. **Children Programs.** Jason asked Tara what she might be interested in pursuing. She indicated that she wanted to explore children climate programs. Jason suggested that she should coordinate with Rebecca. Steve indicated that a group out of Canada with a website we.org should be explored as they have developed teacher's curriculum for instructing K-12 students on the environment.
2. **Trees for Tribs.** Franco advised that there would be a larger program next year near the Wallkill River. This might allow us to claim one point under PE7. At the moment, our past events have not been large enough.
3. **Upcoming Events.** New Paltz is looking to submit their 120 points for Bronze Certification next week. There is another student strike planned for 12/6. Briana indicated that the New Paltz contingent would march to the State DEC facility.
4. **Go Green Expo.** Jason needs volunteers for our annual event. Jason will solicit volunteers by email. March 14 or 15<sup>th</sup> are the tentative dates.

#### **Closing Notes and Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The **next meeting** will be January 8th at the Town Hall @ 7 p.m.



Submitted by Stephen Weir