



## **Minutes of the August 3, 2022, Meeting Held on Zoom at 7 p.m.**

**Task Force Members Present:** Jason Mayer, Mark Varian, Franco Carucci, Tara Hoey, and Stephen Weir, Recording Sect.

**Task Force Members Excused:** Kim Mayer, Steve Mazzuca, Suger Rowinski, Rebecca Carucci, Rick Irizarry and Holly Shader

### **Opening Remarks**

Jason opened the meeting. The minutes of the July 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved.

**CSC Update:** Jason forwarded proposal seminars and Mark and Steve W. expressed interest. The problem is that courses that we need are not being offered until next year, however, they claim they are flexible. Mark will send email to them to ask.

**Ulster County Fair:** The UCC is operating a booth at the Fair. Jason and Kim attended the opening and Jason mentioned that there are displays and games designed for children and adults to teach them aspects of climate conservation. Steve W. attended the second day of the fair and reported there are four UCC representatives there.

**Community Preservation Plan:** Roberta, Jason and Michael Hartner made presentations to the Town Board. All the required resolutions were approved by the Town Board and the path to place it on the ballot in November seems clear.

### **Recurring Business**

**Cooling Centers.** Franco has already indicated that Marybeth agreed to CSG proceeding with writing a Town Emergency Plan with the use of an intern. This plan

would incorporate the idea of setting up cooling centers. Steve W. reported that he has the original 2004 plan in a Word document that should be reviewed for applicability. This does not include cooling centers. Tara reported that they are seeking a SUNY New Platz Sustainability Fellow in Geography. Interviews are conducted in the Fall and course work is done in the Spring of 2023. Oversight is done by the SUNY committee.

**ICLEI and Community GHG Study** – Mark presented an updated draft copy of the Community GHG study. It is very extensive and well documented. Mark showed that we are at stage 1 of the ICLEI requirements, and we still have work to do towards getting a Community GHG Reduction plan. Mark showed that even with the GHG emissions, largely from transportation and residential energy, we still offset all of it and capture GHG emissions from surrounding forests. He is working on finalizing the document and will provide it to the Committee members, hopefully in September. A presentation will be made to the Town Board following that.

Mark mentioned that the study did not detail the GHG contributions made by town employees using their private vehicles for work and that consideration should be given to procuring an EV vehicle for the Code Enforcement Officer. He also mentioned that it would be beneficial if we could get information on the number of heat pumps installed in the Town.

Lastly, Mark indicated that he had signed up for a course in forest sequestration.

**CEC Grant.** Jason received the final two Central Hudson bills and will now do a cost analysis. The grant money will go to paying off the Town's debt, however, the Town Board needs to do a letter of intent agreeing as to how we are spending the money. Jason hopes to have this done by Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Bldg. Audits** – Tabled.

**CCA** – Nothing official to report. Susan Gillespie will come to our September meeting.



**Trees for Tribs.** Tara reported that she is working with a Walkkill HS climate class who will use a USDA program, called COMET to calculate the effectiveness of the sequestration from the 670 trees we already planted.



**LED.** Nothing further to report.

**Community Solar Array.** Currently, the project is on hold.

**Danskammer:** Franco reported there was no change to this.

## **New Business**

**UC Municipal Environmental and Climate Committee Survey.** Jason asked the attendees for priorities, achievements and obstacles to improving the climate. The Committee indicated that the lack of people, grant writers, grants themselves and records all hinder progress. Jason completed the survey and submitted it.

**Gardiner Day.** Jason is going to send out a memo to ascertain interest in manning a booth. He indicated that Kim would be unable to do the recycling this year.

**Get Together.** Will discuss a party at our Sept. meeting.

## **Closing Notes and Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held on September 7th @ 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. or via a teleconferencing. Stay safe and save energy!



Submitted by Stephen Weir