



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

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

**Task Force Members Excused:** Rick Irizarry, Suger Rowinski and Rebecca Carucci.

**Guests:** Benjamin A. Eckstein

### **Opening Remarks**

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

### **New Business**

**Introduction of Benjamin Eckstein.** Benjamin is with Sustainable HV. This is a group that CSG has worked with before but not for a while. Benjamin reviewed that the program arose from Marbletown CSC and is being offered to all CSC's in the region. The program currently has three contractors offering discounts: one for ductless heat pumps and insulation (5% discount), another for home energy audits and finally, one for EV charging stations (straight \$300 discount). Benjamin indicated that his group solicits new discounts each year and awards contracts via a weighted average RFP. They also vet all contractors. He further indicated that they should have a program in place for 2023 that will last ten months. Jason raised a question regarding who pays for the advertising of the program and Ben said that NYSERDA, Marbletown and Gardiner should be able to work out a cost share. Ben will send Jason materials on the program.

## Recurring Business

**Cooling Centers and Town Emergency Plan.** Tara indicated that we received an intern from SUNY New Paltz to work with CSG 16 hours a week starting in the Spring. She also submitted an email to Michael Madison of UC Emergency Management regarding getting their assistance with updating the Town's Emergency Management plan to bring it up to date with climate change and resilience. Steve W. sent Michael a copy of the Town's 2002 plan. Franco briefed the Town Board that Cornell Cooperative will assist in this effort, but no action was needed at this time on the request from Gillian Matthews for town support of their effort since Cornell was not ready yet.

**County CSC.** Kim briefed that there is a grant through UCRRA for composting programs. It involves having a roll off bin at the transfer station where residents would deposit compostable material. Kim indicated that two drop off coordinators were needed, as well as a letter of support from the town board. Mark indicated that there was a webinar on the subject that may have been recorded. Mark and Steve M. will research this further.

**Repair Cafe.** The Café was well attended; however, Holly does not have the stats on it.

**CCA.** Franco got a letter from Jeff Domenski of Joule which he requested be put on the Town's website. Franco indicated that he wanted to edit the document. Joule claims that they have re-booted the program and is working on an outreach session schedule with Michelle Moshe. Meanwhile, we have been approved to join the Kingston CCA. Franco thinks we should decide in January.

**LED.** Franco indicated that the Town Board wants a final version of the cost proposal from Central Hudson, including the interest rates. Questions arose regarding the life span of the fixtures and what will happen if there is damage to the poles since the proposal does not address this. Franco believes that NYPA can assist in filing of any insurance claims; he also said that the Town Board was otherwise okay with the proposal.

**Fleet Purchasing Procedure.** Jason will again ask Tracey Bartels to brief us on the county law in this area and provide guidance on establishing a Town green purchasing plan.

**Community Greenhouse Inventory.** Mark wants to move the October 11<sup>th</sup> Zoom video to the CSG FB page. Mark also mentioned that he and Steve W. would be attending a cohort meeting to assist new CSC's with their government greenhouse studies.

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

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

### **Closing Notes and Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Jan 4th @ 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. or via a teleconferencing. Stay safe, save energy and enjoy your Holidays!



Submitted by Stephen Weir