



## **Minutes of the December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 Meeting Held on Microsoft Teams**

**Task Force Members Present:** Jason Mayer, Kim Mayer, Rick Irizarry, Franco Carucci, Misha Fredericks, Tara Hoey, Rebecca Carucci, Mark Varian and Stephen Weir, Recording Sect.

**Task Force Members Excused** Suger Rowinski, Holly Shader and Aimee Spring-Cecil

**Guests in Attendance:** Anilla Cherian, HVRC Clean Energy Coordinator; Ellen Ferranti

**Opening:** Jason opened the meeting. The prior meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. Jason covered the following news events:

- The NRI will meet on Jan 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm on Zoom.

### **New Business**

**Hudson Valley Regional Coordinator/CSC.** Jason introduced Anilla Cherian as the new Hudson Valley Regional Council Coordinator. Anilla said that she has been a volunteer for 8 years and has worked extensively with the Dobbs Ferry CSG. Dobbs Ferry is now certified as a Bronze Community. Anilla urged CSG to begin using the CEC portal @<https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Clean-Energy-Communities>. CSC applicants which complete four high impact items can become designated as CSC communities, thus making them eligible for further grant funding. Jason indicated he would serve as the contact person and Steve would upload items. Anilla further indicated communities striving to become CSC communities will also receive technical assistance with their certification programs. Anilla pointed out that there are new items to also consider, such as the NY Stretch Energy Code <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Energy-Code-Training/NYStretch-Energy-Code-2020>, Community Campaigns for Clean Heating and the Open C Pace Finance.

### **Recurring Business**

**Resiliency Project.** Jason reported that this item would be postponed until next month's meeting.

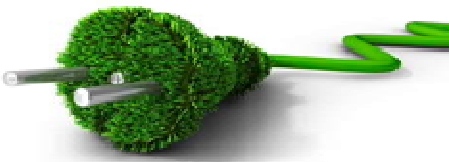
**Zero Waste Program.** Jason mentioned that he had emailed all CSG participants on the program.

**Ethics.** Several potential conflicts of interest exist with CSG members and their associations with private companies in the energy field. Jason asked everyone to review the ethic codes on the town's website and be prepared to discuss at next month's meeting.

**Solar Array at the Landfill.** Rick has had conversations with Wendy, a representative of East Light Partners, the company that did the solar array in Saugerties. Wendy indicated that the Town might have a problem attracting a vendor given the small available footprint. There are some 87 acres available and our array might only require 20 of them. Still the area is under consideration as a trail park by Parks and Recreation and a vendor might have to install scenic blockades which could cut down on the available acreage. Yet, the concept is financially attractive as the current leasing rates, what are based on the number of megawatts produced, makes it possible to lease at a rate of \$10K/mw/year. Franco raised a question about the Town's solar law, but Rick feels that it is not applicable as the Town owns the land. Franco will coordinate with Parks and Recreation as he is the TB liaison. Kim asked about other parcels and Franco stated that those he would have to contact developers to see what might be in play. Jason asked Franco to contact the Town Attorney regarding the solar law question.



**Gardiner CCA.** Franco reported the Town Attorney had reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Joule. Franco said that there were four areas of concern. Franco, Mark and Steve met with Joule and Franco reviewed that with the Town Board on Dec 1. Now, there only remains one item of contention: that the Town be allowed to pursue other projects.



**ICLEI.** CSG's membership will start in January. Franco is working on payment of the invoice and Mark will spearhead the project.

**Danskammer Coalition.** Misha reported that the Business Letter had been developed. This allows local businesses to document to Gov. Cuomo their opposition to Danskammer. See [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeaMNsgQVkvSIxVnUL0\\_CWeHDHmMeW50cIyaQ5wEho9HmdUAQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeaMNsgQVkvSIxVnUL0_CWeHDHmMeW50cIyaQ5wEho9HmdUAQ/viewform).

Several other communities have signed resolutions opposing the project, such as Woodstock. There are planned actions for December 17.

**Climate Smart Communities Portal:** Steve continues to post monthly fuel usage by vehicle as reported by the Highway Dept. Currently, CSG has around 96-99 points completed and we could pick up 7 points for LED, 18 for CCA, 4 for a compliant annual report and 10 for adopting the NRI inventory as a local law.

**LED.** Kim and Mark continue to work on this project. They have met with Tom Conrad and are working on organizing the spreadsheets sent by Marbletown. Kim noted that Marbletown saved \$7K from their audit, finding that their town had been billed incorrectly. Kim noted that she had already found six lights that are not working and many poles that are not numbered.

### **Closing Notes and Adjournment**

Jason stated that he will be working on the annual report and will coordinate with Steve to ensure that the report is compliant with DEC requirements. Once rendered, Steve will upload it to the portal.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m. The **next meeting** will be Jan. 6th at the Town Hall @ 7 p.m. or via a teleconferencing. Stay safe and save energy!



Submitted by Stephen Weir