

CSG Monthly Update for TB Workshop Meeting- August, 2022

1. We are coordinating with Ulster County to make the Ulster County Fair more green and sustainable from 8/2-8/7. We are volunteering in the Climate Smart booth.
2. We continued to provide support for Community Preservation Plan and made comments in favor of this initiative at a Town Board public hearing.
3. We are considering recruiting interns to work on Gardiner's Emergency Plan, including Cooling Centers.
4. We have been invited to participate in Ulster County's Municipal Environmental & Climate Committee Annual Roundtable on Monday, August 29, and will submit a survey re: our priorities and successes for this event.
5. We have achieved 4 High Impact Actions in NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities Program, including sustainability projects with LEDs, Code Enforcement, EV Charging, as well as achieving Climate Smart Community status. Therefore, Gardiner is now recognized as a Clean Energy Community! A \$5000 grant will be given to us for green projects and our proposal is due by 9/22/22. We have decided to use the money on EV Charger debts and potential maintenance costs. We will need a letter describing the way the grant will be used from the Town Board to complete this process, and CSG will assist the Town Board with this requirement.
6. We continue to move forward with LED streetlight conversion with NYPA and Central Hudson. This will result in lower costs and decreased GHG emissions.
7. We are working on helping local farms implement green audits.
8. We continue to advocate with the Danskammer Coalition against the Danskammer project.
9. We have joined ICLEI, a network of governments focused on sustainability; they are providing us tools to complete our Community GHG Emissions Inventory. We have organized a sub-committee to complete this inventory and hope to present the results to the Town Board in the next few months.
10. We are continuing to move forward with CCA implementation, though there have been some recent legal challenges to CCA that we are monitoring closely.
11. Per legal guidance, there are challenges with a solar array co-existing with parkland at the Transfer Station, so the solar array project is currently on hold.
12. Our monthly meetings use the ZOOM platform and links for the meeting be found on the Town of Gardiner website or our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/climatesmartgardiner/>