



Minutes of the April 12, 2023 Meeting Held on Zoom at 7 p.m.

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

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

Guests: Ikumi Sato. Samrat Pathania, Paul Kiesler and Trevor Strano.

Opening Remarks

Jason opened the meeting. The minutes of the March 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved. Jason asked about the adoption of the Community Greenhouse Plan. Franco advised that the Town Board had approved the GHG study.

New Business

Presentation by Trevor Strano. Samrat introduced Trevor, who is a Wallkill Senior High School student. He recently completed a carbon sequestration study using software developed by Comet Farms in coordination with the USDA and Colorado State U. The software is unique in that a user can input the type of tree planted in an area and the software produces a ten-year projection of carbon sequestration and even matches it to the number of kwh of electricity, gallons of gasoline, etc.

Letter of Support for Parks and Recreation. Tara indicated she had drafted up a letter of support. The Town has committed up to \$100K. However, actual cash outlay will vary based on in-kind services from the Highway Dept., HV Trailworks, and volunteers such as from Gardiner Trail Alliance. The total project cost is estimated at \$200K. The project will add a pump track connected directly to the skate park at

Majestic Park. It will include new fencing for the whole skate park complex and a path from the parking lot.

Old Business

CCA. Franco reported that the Town Board met and approved of the status to date. What remains now is for Joule to get bids with the expectation that the winning bids will offer a rate that is below the expected bid amount which was offered by Direct Energy. The default power source will be 100% sustainable, although residents can opt out to a 50% or 20% renewable component. Jeff at Joule is working on the outreach program which is expected to commence on June 8th. Emily is updating the Town's website and posters extolling the program are anticipated to arrive shortly. Franco is confident that we are good to go.

New Paltz Earth Day Event. Mark briefed that the event will be held on April 22nd from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the theme is "The Ten Commitments". This is the 20th anniversary of Earth Day. Activities will include a tree identification walk and a bike ride sponsored by NPCSC. Gardiner's contributions will be providing "seed bombs" for pollinating and Holly will head this up. We are also planning a Recycling Quiz game to inform what items can and cannot be recycled at the Gardiner transfer station. Mark also mentioned that Greenway Zero Waste is going to the event to demonstrate their capabilities.

BAGS TO BENCH CHALLENGE

Recycle plastic bags, films and wraps into a bench for Gardiner Library!

Trex, the world's largest manufacturer of wood-alternative decking products will repurpose our plastic bags and films into a bench that will be donated to Gardiner Library.



What can be recycled? *All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue.*

 Grocery bags	 Bread bags	 Bubble wrap	 Dry cleaning bags	 Newspaper sleeves	 Ice bags	 Plastic shopping envelopes
 Ziploc & other resealable food storage bags	 Cello bags	 Cape overwrap	 Salt bags	 Pallet wrap & stretch film	 Wood pellet bags	 Produce bags

Drop off your clean dry, food-free plastic products in the bins at the teachers' lounge and/or cafeteria until the end of the school year. Thank you!



Bags to Benches Challenge. TREK, the manufacturer of plastic recycled benches, is challenging the Town to collect 500 lbs. of plastic waste in return for building a bench to be donated to the Town Library. Collection points are the NP High School and the Gardiner Library. Posters and publicity are being sent out.

Disaster Preparedness Plan. Gillian Michaels held a follow up meeting with Emily, Tara, Ikumi and Steve W. on March 29th. It is hoped that the Town Emergency Plan will be re-written and that emergency services will be formalized in documents that may be published on the Town website. Ulster County is working on this on a county-wide basis and is developing a county-wide plan that may result in the basis of the TOG Emergency Plan. Steve W. will collaborate with Supervisor Majestic, Franco and Brian Stistcia on anything that is missing. A meeting with Town officials is planned for April 25th.



Ulster County CSC. Kim mentioned that she was working with Melissa Evert on sustainability goals.

Cooling Centers. Steve W. reached out to Eleanor Peck and researched PE7 for requirements and guidance on cooling centers and reported that the Library already meets the standards. Nicole Lane does not want to advertise this until she has secured a backup generator and a way to filter water. Ikumi briefed that she has researched the several types of generators and the safety requirements of each. Mark stated that he knew a member of the NP CSG that Ikumi could speak to.

LED. Kim indicated that the Public Service Commission had received the necessary documents to purchase from Central Hudson and she received an email from NYPA. Kim stated that a check still needs information as to billing.

Composting. No updates on this.



Riverkeeper. Franco briefed that it will be held on May 6th and everything is ready. He said that the event will be publicized on the CSG FB page and Jason will attempt to get it on the Town blast.

Arbor Day. Kim reported that UC approved a program for municipalities to plant trees. A grant application needs to be done. The event is scheduled for late May.

Repair Café. The regional Café program was highlighted on the Today show and local Gardiner residents Holly Shader, Don Grice and Erik Hoover were featured.

Green Purchasing Procedure. No updates on this.

Danskammer: Franco reported that in the coming months, the Administrative Law

Building Audits. No change from last month.

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

Closing Notes and Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next meeting will be held on May 3rd @ 7 p.m. on Zoom. Stay safe, save energy and enjoy your environment!



Submitted by Stephen Weir