



**Minutes of the June 7, 2023, Meeting
Held on Zoom at 7 p.m.**

Task Force Members Present: Jason Mayer, Kim Mayer, Mark Varian, Franco Carucci, Rebecca Carucci, and Stephen Weir, Recording Sect.

Task Force Members Excused: Rick Irizarry, Steve Mazzuca Tara Hoey, Holly Shader and Suger Rowinski.

Guests: Patty Gandin and Paul Kiesler.

Opening Remarks

Jason opened the meeting at 7:09 p.m. The minutes of the May 2023 meeting were reviewed and approved. Jason indicated that the Bags to Benches Challenge was completed, however, donations can still be made as the Library will start a new collection in September.

Jason mentioned that he had received a new bill from Charge Point that he is passing along to Steve M. for analysis to determine if we can lower the rate. As the EV charging station is not a demand account, we would have to opt in to the CCA.

Jason noted that the Town of Gardiner was awarded an ECO Action Award by Joule and it was covered in the Hudson Valley One. He also mentioned that a 7th round of 50/50 grant funding is available with a July 28th deadline should anyone wish to pursue it.

Old Business

UC Climate Meeting. Kim reported that they are working on the UC Fair and that an educational meeting will be held tomorrow. Highland passed a resolution to become a CSC community.

Riverkeeper. Rebecca reported that Riverkeeper dedicated much of its time this year to maintenance of the trees that have been planted along the Wallkill. Teams straighten the supporting tubes around the 670 trees that are there. The volunteers then removed some 425 lbs. of garbage from the river. The entire Riverkeeper statistics for the Wallkill River for all the communities upstream and downstream are impressive: 31 tons of garbage removed, including 279 tires.

Transition. Jason is still looking for someone to assume his role.

CCA. Franco reported that there was an agenda item on the last Town Board to discuss the opt out provisions. Letters have been sent to all applicable town residents who have to make that decision with June 16th being the final date. Franco believes that July or August will begin the first billing cycle. Steve W. and Franco will work on getting the needed documentation on the portal for certification and for the high impact item. Mark pointed out that we need to get a notice out to our customers explaining where the power comes from prior to a letter that has to be sent by Central Hudson explaining the same. The CH letter often causes confusion.

Disaster Preparedness Plan. Steve W. and Supervisor Majestic attended a Hazard Mitigation Plan training at the UC Training Center in Kingston. The contractor, Tetra Tech, is requesting mitigation plans from the Town to cover potential disasters such as wildfires and flooding.



Cooling Centers. Steve W. reported that he has written a Request for Bids for installation of a back-up generator at the Library. Once installed, this should qualify the Town for installation of a cooling center.

LED. Franco and Kim briefed that NYPA is ready to purchase replacement LED lights which will be dark sky complaint and can be dimmed. The Town is prepared to pay approximately \$64k to pay off 50% of the total and upon installation, the remainder. At the TB of June 6th, Franco told NYPA to go ahead and send a draft copy of the contract for the Town Attorney to review. indicated that the initiative is ready to go. The only matter to be decided is how much to procure now and when and how much to pay NYPA. Franco is pushing to buy 100% and pay NYPA \$75K which includes the buyout of the lamps. Franco indicated that there is still a 90-day lead time on procurement.

Composting. No updates on this.

Arbor Day. Franco reported that the impasse with the Transfer Station continues, and he recommended planting trees that will not grow higher than 30 feet. This will preserve the view.

Green Schools. Paul K. has reached out to Joe Londa and others.

UC Fair. There will be a climate smart booth with educational opportunities. There is a meeting at 4 p.m. tomorrow and volunteers are still needed.

Green Purchasing Procedure. No updates on this.

Danskammer: Danskammer is appealing the denial of their Title 5 permit. The Sierra Club and Scenic Hudson are preparing Act 10 action.

Building Audits. No change from last month.

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

Closing Notes and Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next meeting will be held on July 5th @ 7 p.m. on Zoom. Stay safe, save energy and enjoy your environment!



Submitted by Stephen Weir