

## Climate Smart Communities Task Force Meeting Minutes

April 28th, 2020

In attendance via Zoom: Mary Lambert, Alison Waldron, Brad Dunn, Jean Hamerman, Ion Simonides, Iris Hiskey Arno, Haven Colgate

Approval of minutes for February 4, March 3, and March 31 meetings

Introduction of Ion Simonides, new member

### Updates

- Bronze resubmission: We should hear back mid-May on how many points we got from our April re-submission.
- We have 10 actions planned for silver.
- Next submission deadline: July 2, but internal deadline early June. (Friday June 5th)
- We will reevaluate in mid-May and decide whether we'll need new initiatives or if we already have enough.

### Project Plan

1. Interior lighting upgrade: This is in good shape. Looking for 4, possibly 5 points.
2. Advanced vehicles: Some good news—there's a purchase order for a hybrid the village will buy.
3. HVAC upgrade: Spencer has been talking as part of the Energy Working Group about getting new upgrades. The idea was to get heat pumps for the fire station, but there is no money in budget for it right now.
4. Planning infrastructure for biking and walking: There's a proposal the BoT will consider at its next meeting for three new bike parking stations—at Boulanger Plaza, the train station, and the post office. In order to get points, these need to be built. Unlikely this can happen by July. We may be able to get points for signage for bike parking and pedestrians and for two sidewalk projects.
5. Natural resources inventory: Anjali, Patrick, and Spencer have met to talk about how to move this forward. The good news from the county is that we can leverage their GIS maps and use them to write a report describing what they show about the Village's resources. It's a heavy lift but worth lots of points (8). After the Report is submitted and approved report, we can get two more points. Brad and Ion are working on this.
6. Climate vulnerability and resiliency assessment—We have over 500 responses according to Survey Monkey. Brad says only nine other villages have done this and not many got the full points. New Paltz did and is a good model for us. They used ICLEI. Brad and Ion

will work on that. We need to write up the report to present to the public. Originally we needed two public presentation sessions but there may be an exception because of COVID 19. Mary to reach out to Dazzle to confirm.

7. Resilience vision: For another three points, it involves a plan for our community's vision for addressing what we uncover in the report. Under consideration.
8. Re the public workshop, Mary says it could also be used towards the climate change education and engagement PE, because that PE requires a public forum as well.
9. Green vendor fair: This obviously can't happen as originally planned, but Haven and Elisa Zazzera have done a great job with the recent series of webinars. (Spencer's climate presentation was great and is on the conservation commission website.) Perhaps we can get some points for these in lieu of those expected for the green vendor fair. Haven thinks maybe the HeatSmart webinar could qualify though the others aren't related to products or service. We need to look at the requirements because the education must specifically address **adaptation** and **mitigation**.
10. Regarding the green vendor fair, Alison is happy to help with the write up.
11. Climate change education and engagement: Haven and Iris will work on a memorandum that will draw on what we've done to date, including a lot of Conservation Commission education activities. Anyone else wanting to join us is welcome. Haven will email everyone the rubric outline for this effort. Mary says the virtual climate resiliency workshop should be able to help too. Jean might have a little time to work on this.
12. New innovative actions: Ion spoke about the Village passing a resolution about procuring low embodied carbon concrete. The Mayor is looking over a draft he submitted and he will talk with Chris Nidel from Open Air Collective about how we can frame this as an innovative action for this goal. Mary explained the three options—integrate into our green building code, into our procurement policy, or have it be a stand-alone policy. Discussion about how anything but a stand-alone policy at this point seems like it would take too long.
13. Jean said we are watching the clean up of Washington Street by Con Ed. If the work is done in time, it could be two more points (clean up of brownfield). We should check with MaryBeth to find out what her understanding is of the communication she'll get from ConEd regarding their work plan, timeline, etc. They should send us and DEC notification when it's complete.

#### Reminders:

- Upload docs as soon as you can to the relevant Google folder. This will make project management easier.
- Cc rest of your Committee on the status of your work.