



**Climate Smart
Communities**
Certified Bronze



**Town of Poughkeepsie
Climate Smart Communities Task Force**

July 6, 2023 at 7 pm

The meeting took place on Zoom at the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85918232519?pwd=QkFoN0EwbXJzVnZLTIUzNGxHYIN0Zz09>

Task Force members present:

Susan Karnes Hecht, Chair
Richard Levine
Feza Oktay
Thomas Lynch
Stanley Merritt

Project updates:

- CAPI: we looked briefly at the master workbook to illustrate the inventory work being done (primarily by Kristen Taylor) and the inventory report template. The cohort is moving into the inventory report phase, to be followed by development of the Climate Action Plan using the baselines acquired in the inventory. Feza asked how the process of developing the Plan includes the necessary stakeholders and how we can ensure buy-in and accountability from the town government. Ideally NYS will drive some of the changes that will be included. This is limited to municipal operations, so primary stakeholders are town departments, and priorities will also be based on the sectors with most emissions/most amenable to reductions.
- Solar array: Susan has requested that Supervisor Baisley keep her posted. He reported this week that the re-written contract with SunCommon (which was not originally in needed commercial format) is now being reviewed by the Legal Dept.
- Charger installation at Town Hall: the contract for this, including arrangements for the electric lines, is also being reviewed by Legal as reported by the Supervisor.
- Green Business Bureau: Susan met with Maria Genovesi, GBB liaison. There has not been a single registration, which is very frustrating given all of the work we did to get the word out. They discussed various reasons why this might be the case, and Maria has provided some new content to share with businesses via social media, BID, etc. Feza asked if GBB has any statistics available on companies that have joined recently in a certain radius? What characterizes these businesses? This kind of information might be helpful in targeting likely businesses.

- Repair Cafe: next Cafe scheduled for 9/9/23 at Vassar Barn. Timing to account for morning pickup at the Farm Project to avoid traffic conflicts.
- Review updated certification planning document: we have quite a bit in the pipeline for Silver certification but not nearly enough for the required points. We ask that all CSTF members review the potential actions on the NYSCSC website and bring back ideas that could be proposed to the town. We discussed the likelihood that some action items that come out of CAPI will in and of themselves be point producers, in addition to the Plan itself.
- The Arlington Street Fair is scheduled for 9/16/23. Neither Susan nor Richard will be able to attend, since the Fair conflicts with Rosh Hashanah and the BID is adamant, as always, that it cannot be changed. We need CSTF members willing to work the Fair.
- Feza noted that there is a new fillery store in Eastdale Village (unrelated to the recently opened Tomfillery on Main Street in Arlington).

Notes recorded by Susan Karnes Hecht

Next meeting: Thursday, August 3, 2023 at 7 pm on Zoom