

MINUTES

PHILMONT CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE

[Jan 2022](#)

January 13, 2022

- Attendees: John and Tomoko Gurbo; John Vitell; Susan Michie, Andrew Personette, Debra Gitterman, Tom Paino, Candace Christianson.
- Update:
 - a. Early 2019 Clean Energy Community – specific grant \$35K for lighting upgrade of sewage treat plant and install 2 EV charging stations
 - b. Late 2019 – Village Board pledged to become a CSC and in Spring of 2021 I was designated the chair and Debra the government coordinator
 - c. End of 2021 several initiatives were completed – 2 EV charging stations, 100% change-out of street lights, adoption of NYS Energy Stretch Code, and completion of lighting upgrade at sewage plant.
- Introductions
- Expected Funding - \$5K + \$5K establish the committee + \$10K for 3000 points
- Areas of Concern
 - a. Community outreach/publicity – newsletter, events (Andrew)
 - b. Government liaison – County and other towns (Susan)
 - c. Administration of paperwork – (contract out?)
 - d. Fundraising – (contract out? – Austerlitz has a part-time grantwriter)
- Programs
 - a. Micro-hydro power generation (this is what put Philmont on the map)
 - b. Electric vehicles
 - c. District energy – community distributed generation
 - d. Carbon sequestration agriculture
 - e. Community solar
 - f. Building upgrades to reduce energy use
 - g. Light bulb change out (to incentivize renters)
 - h. Thermostat replacement
 - i. Conservation measure seminars
 - j. Composting, solid waste, recycling
 - k. Free bucket, garbage sticker exchange
- Certification Action Checklist – 120 “action items” ranging from energy audits on municipal buildings to installing renewable energy generation (solar, wind, geothermal) to establishing bike routes to adopting an anti-idling ordinance.
- Discussion: Light Bulb changeout Earth Day (April 22) or Community Day (June)
- Actions
 - a. Increase Village Mailchimp List Serve to 775! (we’re at 128)
 - b. Tom will connect Susan Michie will John Bradley, Claverack’s Climate Smart Coordinator
 - c. Tom will connect Debra with Austerlitz’s part-time grant person.
- Next Meeting set for Thursday, February 10, 5:30pm (2nd Thursdays)