

Climate Smart Community Task Force

Village of Philmont, NY

Minutes of Meeting No. 18

June 14, 2023

Attendees: Thomas Paino (Chair), Allison Hoppe, Haley Balconoff, Debra Gitterman, Susan Michie, Arthur King, Michael Seserman

The meeting took place entirely on Zoom.

1. Lightbulb exchange/Community Day – Michael will secure use of a table from the public library. Tom will collect the remaining lightbulbs and deliver to the table. Susan will provide copies of flyers on various CSC topics. Arthur will pick up the logo printed tablecloth. The table will be staffed throughout the day by Susan, Michael, Tom, Arthur and Sarah. The lightbulb video will periodically be played. Repair café to be located at the library.
2. NYSERDA Clean Energy Community PON 3298 (municipal building energy audit) Kick-off meeting with NYSERDA to transfer partial funds from audit to ECM implementation scheduled for June 28. Tom and Debra will attend. Tom will schedule meeting with Greg Legget and Doug Cropper to review prospective work at Village Hall to arrive at an estimate to upgrade lighting and strategize additional funding sources.
3. Haley suggested contacting New York Rural Water Association to discuss possible FlexTech audit of the wastewater treatment plant. They offer limited no-charge audits to local municipalities. Tom will make the contact.
4. Data collection for Pledge Element 2.1 – Government Operations Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory should be coordinated with Haley as soon as Jess Thomas completes the culling of the documents. Pledge Element 2.5 – Government Operations Climate Action Plan is dependent on 2.1 GHG inventory.
5. The uploading of documents to the shared GoogleDoc folders organized by Pledge number continues as per previous assignment. A document download marathon is scheduled for June 18 to be attended by Debra, Michael, Susan and Tom. The NYSERDA submission deadline is July 7.
6. The survey questionnaire for the Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Plan (Pledge Element 7) still needs work. Allison to be in contact with Lindsey Stahlau-Howay of Cornell to pursue this further.
7. Final grant funding consultation with Kristen Wilson of RUPCO to be scheduled with Debra and Tom. The session will concentrate on assistance with completing the Community Development Block Grant due at the end of July.
8. Revised logo with the “M” in Philmont rendered as abstract mountain peaks was approved and given the go ahead to be printed on a re-usable table cloth to be first used at Community Day.
9. Columbia County Clean Heating and Cooling program will be promoted by Michael at Community Day. The program calls for residents and business owners to voluntarily install heat pumps and complete a form provided by the County giving details of the installation process. Haley encouraged this measure because it is now covered as a targeted action grant offering \$5K for 5 installations, \$10K for ten installations, etc. includes heat pumps and solar panels. Michael

will secure further information including contact with Cara Humphrey of Neighborhood Sun and/or others for literature and local presentation.

10. Participation in the County's aerobic composting program needs further work. The County provides containers and weekly pickup of composting. The first step is to identify the refuse handler, and holding a meeting with that entity to determine % of total refuse pick-up, strategy for separating putrescible from other waste, etc.
11. The next meeting will be held, Wednesday, July 12, 2023.

Minutes prepared by Thomas Paino