

Climate Smart Community Task Force

Village of Philmont, NY

Minutes of Meeting No. 19

July 12, 2023

Attendees: Thomas Paino (Chair), Allison Hoppe, Haley Balconoff, Susan Michie, Arthur King, Sarah King

The meeting took place entirely on Zoom.

1. A mix-up with the lightbulb invoices resulted in learning that only half of the original order was paid for and delivered. This explains why there are only about 100 bulbs left for the exchange program. The invoice to purchase the bulbs indicates a total of \$1,317. Some bulbs (40?) will be brought back to the library to cover their ongoing exchange activity and the rest will be reserved for special events. Flyers left over from Community Day will be delivered to Village Hall and the Library for distribution. Also, single flyers can be posted at the Post Office bulletin board.
2. NYSERDA Clean Energy Community PON 3298 (municipal building energy audit) Brian Johnson agreed to arrange for Greg Legget to contact Doug Cropper for a walk-through Village Hall to assess purchase and installation associated with the lighting upgrade indicated in the energy audit report. Greg will submit an estimate.
3. Jacob Gardner of New York Rural Water Association is considering a FlexTech audit of the wastewater treatment plant. He first needs to speak with David Siter the plant operator and then get back to Tom.
4. Data collection for Pledge Element 2.1 – Government Operations Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory will be submitted to Tara Donadio (Haley's replacement). Tom will meet with Jess to complete the data still missing. Pledge Element 2.5 – Government Operations Climate Action Plan is dependent on 2.1 GHG inventory.
5. Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Plan (Pledge Element 7) initial meeting is scheduled for July 21 with Lindsey Strehlau-Howay of Cornell and the Village. Tom and Debra to reach out to volunteer fire and code enforcement for them to send representatives to the meeting.
6. Final grant funding consultation with Kristen Wilson of RUPCO took place June 30 specifically to discuss Community Development Block Grant request with Debra and Tom. Tom to provide letter in support of the \$50K grant to do a study and assessment of Philmont's housing. The letter will stress the importance of any newly constructed or substantially renovated housing meeting stringent energy reduction goals.
7. Arthur will provide usable blank letterhead featuring the approved logo.
8. 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.
9. 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.

10. The effort to apply for Bronze Certification in the NYS CSC Certification program resulted in a total of 91 potential credits. Not meeting the minimum 120 potential credit threshold means holding off re-submission until January 2024. The municipal GHG Inventory, Fleet Inventory, Climate Vulnerability and Adaptation plan add up to a potential of 50 additional points. These actions are currently in the works and should comfortably get us over the threshold. The following table indicating individual responsibility should serve as guidance to meet this January goal:

PCSC Additional Actions for January 2024 Submission

Group	Action	Points	Who
PE2	Government operations GHG Inventory	16	Tom
PE2	Government operations Climate Action Plan	12	Allison
PE3	Benchmarking Municipal Buildings Advanced Rep	2	Tom
PE3	Fleet Inventory	4	Tom
PE3	Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy	4	Debra
PE4	Green Power Procurement Policy	4	Debra
PE5	Recycling Bins in Government Buildings	3	Debra
PE5	Waste Reduction Education Campaign (Repr Café, compost)	2	Susan
PE5	Residential Organic Waste Program (leaf & Compost)	10	Susan
PE6	Comprehensive Plan with Sustainability Elements	6	Allison
PE7	Climate Vulnerability Assessment	10	Allison
PE7	Climate Adaptation Plan	7	Allison
PE7	Climate Resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan	4	Allison
PE7	Watershed Plan for Water Quality	4	Arthur, Sarah
PE8	Brownfield Clean-up & Redevelopment	6	Arthur, Sarah
PE11	New Innovative Action (MicroHydro	5	Andrew
Total		99	

11. The next meeting will be held, Wednesday, September 13, 2023.

Minutes prepared by Thomas Paino