



North Salem | Climate Smart Community

Meeting of the Climate Smart Community Leadership Community 2.27/2023

Minutes-

The Meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM

Attending in person: Katherine Daniels, Brandy Keenan, Pam Pooley, Janine Kourakos, Rick O'Leary, Holly Thomson, Chris Brockmeyer, Edris Scherer, Jocko McKean, and Annie Farrell
By Zoom: Laura O'Donohue

1. Minutes of the January 23, 2023 meeting were approved.
2. Moving forward, this committee needs an in-person quorum at meetings, so, the core Committee makeup would be those who are able to attend the majority of the meetings.

Those core members are: Katherine Daniels, Chair, Christopher Brockmeyer, Annie Farrell, Charlotte Harris, Brandy Keenan, Janine Kourakos, Jocko McKean, Richard O'Leary, Pamela Pooley (or Eric Pooley, as alternate), Amy Rosmarin, Edris Scherer, Holly Thomson

Ad Hoc members are: Laura O'Donohue, Nina Eisenman, Maureen Kenny, Warren Lucas, Peter McCartt, Teri Mendelsohn, Janet Olshansky, John Roach, Susan Romanski Robert Tompkins

3. Grants- the 10K we have already received from NYSEERDA was used for the heat pumps at 3 Owens; the town covered the rest of the costs; building is far more efficient at this point. We still want to support geo thermal there. We should plan on taking a tour for this site and see if we can come up with ways to further improve efficiency.

4. Projects for 2023

A. GHG inventory- the most recent \$5K NYSEERDA grant will be used to the fund the GHG inventory to be conducted by ICLEI; Town will cover the costs over an additional \$1,500 to cover drafting of the report. Our task will be to send letters to NYSEG and any other relevant utilities and local suppliers of fuel including: Heritage Fuel, Robison, Burke, Marshall, Suburban Propane, TriCounty, and others that were not identified at this meeting.

B. NSIS Roadside Clean-up is scheduled for March 25th: electronic waste drop-off will be available; Devon from WinWaste Management has offered to help the IS and the town on that day, including helping with publicity. Edris will inquire whether WinWaste can supply some way to collect things that are not accepted as e-waste, such as kitchen and household appliances.

-Does this committee want or need to be a part of this clean-up day?

-Laura suggests they want our ewaste which is why it is no cost; and once we went to single stream is there a cost benefit still?

C. We are scheduled for another trip to WinWaste on April 21st; perhaps we should go to the sorting place as well.

D. Katherine brought up the need for legislation to help reduce the amount of waste we produce. There are bills at the state and federal levels seeking to address this. Katherine said she would like to see legislation requiring manufacturers cover the costs of their product from cradle to grave, but acknowledged that this is a big step. There are interim steps easier to pass like reducing wasteful packaging. We can help to write letters and explore other methods reducing packaging waste. We can advocate to the community the need for this type of action at the next climate fair.

E. Spring Fair- We discussed the possibility of having a table at the Library Fair in May – a mini fair within a Fair. We could invite a solar and a heat exchange pump vendor to field questions and sign people up for consults. Let's talk to Virginia Connolly of the Library Board to see what that board is comfortable with.

F. There will not be a Race from NSOLF this year to be involved with, so we need to look at other fall options for a climate fair.

-the arts festival in Croton Falls might be an option – could focus on artists who use sustainable products for their artwork

-the Green space event- when is that?

-not just a one-off event but ongoing outreach such as at that library

-Ann offered to do whatever workshops she is ready to go with

-more hands on and not just flyers on a table

-a science fair approach?

-include a solar power project/panel demonstration

-using wool for...ask Brandy

-recycling bottle caps...again ask Brandy for more on this

-collecting paper rolls for Brandy)

G. EV chargers- Edris will find out the vender that Katonah used; where can we do it? Croton Fall in the parking lot next to the creek; we need to convince the 2 gas stations next to the highway to get onboard (a few members are taking on this project to meet with the gas stations owners currently); the planning board has discussed where to install

these but there was some worry about maintaining the area which the town is not able to do

- need to have a handle on incentives and communicate this...

- placement of chargers? Perhaps a Level 2 in Croton; it seems that MTA is doing this already

- Laura brought up that the speed limit in town is contributing to the problem GHG;

Katherine reported that we can't control county and state roads, yet Laura reports that Bedford did just that; Laura will see what she can dig up.

- Falling cost of EVs- Katherine reported on the NYT articles about pricing trending down in EVs.

H. Solar on Highway Garage- need funding; need NYSEG to allow us to use credits for the entire town and to put in the infrastructure to make it possible; Town of NS may need to plan for a capital investment; allowing us to benefit from the tax credits would make it far more attractive to us and the town.

5. Newsletter winter 2023 includes the installation of solar at Comfortside Farm; battery recycling; and a summary of the trip to the recycling plant
-need authors for our next newsletter:

6. Recycle Right app- let's find out more

Next meeting: Monday's at 6:00 PM on March 27th. Moving forward, these meetings will be the 4th Monday of each month. Meeting place to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM Minutes prepared by Jocko McKean