



**North Salem Climate Smart Community
Leadership Committee
Minutes
January 18, 2022**

Katherine called the meeting to order at approximately 5:05 pm on Zoom.

1. Katherine welcomed Warren Lucas, the members of the Town Board, County Executive George Latimer and new committee member Emily Lehr.
2. Nina Eisenman presented her GHG Emissions Inventory Report. George Latimer congratulated Nina, the Committee and the Town of North Salem for their excellent work. He would like to use Nina's analysis as an example for other Westchester towns to follow!
3. Emily, Lauren and Janine presented a draft of our first newsletter and received some comments from Committee members. Warren complimented the graphic design and gave a big shout out to Roe Intrieri who designed the logo.
4. Katherine announced the formation of a subcommittee to make recommendations to the full Committee regarding the use of grant money received under the CEC and CSC programs. The subcommittee members include Warren Lucas, Janine Kourakos, Edris Scherer, Nina Eisenman and Katherine Daniels.
5. Katherine reported that we are presently eligible for grants totaling \$20,000 for work done so far. The new subcommittee considered five options for use of these funds: (i) purchase of an electric vehicle (EV) to replace an existing gas powered truck or van in need of replacement; (ii) a project to convert a town highway truck to an EV; (iii) the installation of one or more EV charging stations; (iv) replacing the cooling units at Town Hall with more energy efficient units; (v) conducting an energy audit of 3 Owens Road (a.k.a. the Schoolhouse); and (vi) making a contribution to the Town's first municipal solar project at the salt shed, library or Peach Lake water treatment plant. The subcommittee recommended that we focus first on a high profile solar project and commit at least some of the funds to that.
6. Katherine asked Warren Lucas to share his thinking about the possibility of putting solar panels on the salt shed. Warren explained that roof is brand new and ideally positioned for solar. He thinks and that enough panels could be installed to generate sufficient energy to power most if not all of the town buildings. He is not sure how much it would cost to install the panels, but is reasonably confident that the town could borrow the money and the savings on municipal electric bills would more than pay for the financing over time. He also that there may be other sources of funding available.

7. Maria Hlushko. suggested that there might be shared services funding for a solar project at the Peach Lake water treatment plant, which we share with the sewer district and town of Southeast.
8. Janine will contact several solar companies to come and evaluate each potential site. She and Warren have already reached out to NYSEG to determine whether the town can use the power generated at the salt shed to offset the electric usage elsewhere.
9. The Committee discussed the forgoing proposals and the general consensus was to commit up to \$5,000 to educational programs this spring and \$15,000 to a solar project, such as the salt shed.
10. The deadline for submitting proposals for the grants is February 17, but can be extended if we need more time. We will probably ask for an extension.
11. Katherine said she hopes to turn around another draft of the Climate Action Plan for comments before the next meeting.
12. There were no subcommittee reports this month.

Next Meeting: February 15, 2022

