



**North Salem Climate Smart Community
Leadership Committee
MINUTES
February 15, 2022**

1. Katherine, Charlotte, Nina, Janine and Edris updated the Team regarding a meeting with SunBlue to assess the potential for installing solar at the Highway Garage, Courthouse/Police Garage and Peach Lake Sewer Plant. SunBlue's proposals were distributed. We also discussed the possibility of finding a local investor to purchase the equipment (to take advantage of depreciation and other tax incentives not available to municipalities) and lease it back to the town.
2. Janine, Nina, Chris, Lauren, Edris and Katherine reported about their tour of the Win Waste facility. The visit underscored the importance of being mindful about what we put into the recycling stream. Impressive in many ways, the process is inefficient and energy intensive. We should do community education in this area and encourage field trips so young people can see for themselves the realities of how recycling works.
3. Katherine reported that a number of residents have complained about large increases in their NYSEG bills. The increases appear to be due to increases in delivery and supply charges and adjustments for estimating that was done during the pandemic. However, some people are conflating the increases with their decision to join the Community Solar Program, which should not be causing any increase. We need to do more education about how to read NYSEG bills so folks can see the actual impact of the solar credits.
4. Katherine and Janine reported that the revised paperwork for adoption of the NYStretch Code has been submitted.
5. Katherine asked the Team to review the State's net zero emissions building code proposal.
6. The Team resolved to use \$5,000 from the grant money we have earned to date to conduct a climate fair in the spring/early summer. Janine will submit the grant. The Team further resolved to use \$10-15,000 to purchase energy efficient heat pumps at Town Hall or Lobdell – if doing so makes sense after review by a potential installers.
7. Katherine asked for final comments on draft climate action plan.
8. There were no subcommittee reports.

Date: March 8, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Daniels