

TOWN OF CHATHAM – CSATF – MINUTES – 10-27-20

Climate Smart Committee

Present: Kevin, Vance, Deborah, Melissa, Karla, Tara, John, Angus, Rick

Recycling Improvement – Further digging revealed that the issue with black plastics is unique to our contracted recycler, a company in Vermont. Their machinery can't see the triangle, due to the scanner not being able to read that particular color. Our efforts may be best put towards making the community and our local restaurants and grocers aware, and asking if they will switch to white, aluminum, or a different green option. Deborah, John, Karla and Melissa will pursue.

Commercial Composting Law – It's been confirmed that there is no facility within 25mi of our area, so at present the law does not change anything.

NYPA Streetlights- Kevin finally got the info we needed from NYSEG. Now NYPA can make an up to date presentation to the Town Board for consideration. Kevin projects that this will be at a Nov or early Dec meeting.

Stretch Code – Mike DeWine is supposedly sending the entire committee an email with detailed information. Karla will invite him to present to us at an upcoming meeting.

Solarize Chatham – We officially requested proposals from Solstice and Blue Wave, with a return date of Nov 21. The subcommittee will review after Thanksgiving.

Comp Plan Survey – Angus shared the questions he thinks should be added to the survey to fully cover our committee's interests. Everyone agreed with his conclusions.

Rick - Donal has signed a letter addressed to the County Board of Supervisors asking the county to become a Climate Smart Community. It's to be presented at the Nov 4 County Board of Supervisors meeting. 8 similar letters have already come from other municipalities. Agreeing and pursuing this would open the County to additional funding opportunities.

Tara – If our group completes a few more sustainability items, we will be eligible for more funding for additional projects. Angus – The Town and residents are missing out on PILOT monies, by not pursuing these opportunities. Tara will put Angus in touch with Audrey for information about a State group that is providing free tech support to navigate applications

Kevin – was notified by the EV Charging Station supplier that for 2021, we'll need to update the station's modem to 4G. The Town Board has been made aware and has set aside money in the budget to do so.

Deborah- New World Foundation (sponsored by Citizens' Climate Lobby) is set to choose 6 Hudson Valley Climate Smart Communities (amongst those that apply) to help them implement actions to achieve Bronze Level. Applications should be available soon, with those chosen announced in February. They will work with those chosen for 6 months. Applicants must agree to commit 10-15hrs per week to the effort.

Next meeting Nov 24 6pm