

CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE MEETING 2/23/21

In attendance: Kevin, Angus, Deborah, Melissa, John, Jill

Presentation by Jill Falchi, outlining the changes to the state's Climate Smart program and its funding streams

Clean Energies Communities – The funding structure has changed. Now grants are available for some stand-alone actions.

- Unified Solar Permit. We've completed this and can apply for credit retroactively.

- Enroll Municipal Buildings in Community Solar.

- Buy Renewable Energy Certificates for all municipal buildings and street lights.

- Benchmarking. We have passed the resolution, but may not have posted the results. Deborah says the data for 2019 is in the portfolio; it just needs to be published. She will follow up.

- Clean Fleets. 100 points for the EV charging station

- StretchCode/ Code Enforcement Training. We have to do it again to introduce Stretch Code.

Looking for venues to do so safely outdoors, and include local builders. Do one virtually as soon as we can, and look in to hosting one live, possibly Crellin Park, possibly PS21.

There are stand-alone grants and points available. Mike DeWein will meet with the Town Board to present the program and what's possible. We should schedule trainings for the Code Enforcement Officers. Jill will follow up to get this set up. Karla suggests we partner with Herrington's for outreach and promotion.

- Community Campaigns. 500 points for the solar campaign. 10 individual signups=points.

- Clean Heating/Cooling. We can partner with Jill to sign up residents for clean heating systems.

- LED Streetlights. The board is considering our presentation. Since the cost has increased, Kevin is unsure if the Board will go for it. It seems to be up to Donal and David Levow at this point, to see if they deem it affordable.

- Climate Smart Communities Program. Cannot submit for points review until having reached the 125 point threshold. Is reviewed 3x a year, January, April, July.

- Energy Smart Program. Completed actions can be uploaded at any time; approval usually posts within 14 days.

We have completed a lot of the actions, but need to follow through to ensure they've been uploaded and submitted properly for credit. Jill will review our online file and coordinate with Kevin and Deborah to make sure we submit all actions correctly to the CSC portal and get credit.

Solarize Chatham

Angus- We are aiming for an April kickoff, with an online campaign. We will hopefully be doing in-person promotion by summer.

Solar Law

It's been reviewed by the Columbia Land Conservancy; they'd like to tweak the language so cables don't interfere with tilling or animal fencing. They also want language on zoning overlays, ridgeline language, and it being a town-wide blanket policy rather than parceling.

EV Charging Station

We thought we had to replace the head on it, but it may just be a software upload glitch. It seems to be working fine again.

A summary of what we've been working on for the last 3 months has been requested by the Communications Committee for inclusion in the community newsletter. Melissa will write, Kevin will review and approve. March 15th deadline.

Next meeting: March 23, 6pm