

Town of North Hempstead
Climate Smart Communities

Task Force Virtual Zoom Meeting #7

Tuesday, January 10, 2023, 2 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Mindy Germain, President Eco Leap

PRESENT:

Elected Officials	Town Staff and Consultant	CSC Task Force Members
Veronica Lurvey, Councilperson Mariann Dalimonte, Councilperson	Meagan Fastuca- Environmental Specialist; Planning and Environmental Protection Wes Sternberg- Planner; Planning and Environmental Protection Mitch Pitnick- Town Board Department Mindy Germain- CSC Consultant Eileen Kraneburg- Executive Assistant to the Parks Commissioner Joseph Canzoneri Jr.- Plans Examiner, Building Department Erin Molyneux- Aide to Councilwoman Dalimonte	Patricia Katz Jean Celender Rosemary Mascali Stephen Cipot Harriet Becker Carol Frank Patrick Farrell

Additional attendees:

Michelle Shain- Eco Leap

Mary Houlihan- Town resident

- I. Meagan Fastuca, Town of North Hempstead Environmental Specialist and CSC Coordinator welcomed the task force to the seventh meeting and thanked members of the public for attending, noting all meetings are open to the public.

- II. The following in-progress Climate Smart Communities (CSC) actions were reported:
 - Public Engagement
 - i. M. Fastuca reported that the community survey to help develop a baseline understanding of the issues, perceptions, concerns, and priorities facing our Town with respect to climate change closed on January 3, 2023 with 489 respondents. She thanked the task force for their efforts promoting the survey, which brought in roughly additional 200 responses. M. Fastuca and M. Germain are working on a report summarizing the survey results in consultation with Rosemary Mascali to present at the April task force meeting. The survey results will then be shared with the public and used in conjunction with the Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory to help shape the Town’s Community Climate Action Plan.

 - ii. M. Germain reported she will be sharing a video plan on Recycling and Waste Educational during section III of the agenda, addressing the task force’s goal of educating the community on proper protocols.

- M. Fastuca reported the draft Municipal Climate Action Plan (MCAP) has been reviewed internally by the Town Board, department heads, and staff. The MCAP will now be emailed to the task force for comments by January 27. To help the task force review, M. Germain will provide an overview of the MCAP via zoom on Wednesday, January 18th at 10:30 AM.
- W. Sternberg reported on the Blink contract for EV Charging Stations:
 - i. the first 8 charging spots will go in Port Washington Parking District lot #4
 - ii. the Town is getting ready to apply for necessary building permits
 - iii. the Town is looking to do public outreach- Rosemary Mascali offered to help plan another EV 101 with Drive Electric Long Island.
 - iv. Task force members asked about future locations beyond Port Washington. W. Sternberg reported the Town will look at additional locations throughout the Town. S. Cipot suggested the Town look into Clinton G. Martin Park as a site for additional charging spots.
 - v. Councilperson Lurvey suggested a follow up on the funding Senator Anna Kaplan secured for additional charging stations in Town parks.
- M. Fastuca reported the Town's Organics Management Plan was adopted by the Town Board in December. Much has already been done including web pages, flyers, sourcing local food banks, a food waste free Friday social media campaign, and stakeholder outreach promoting the plan and local resources.
- M. Fastuca reported on the task force field trip to tour the Cornell Cooperative Extension's oyster hatchery in November, stating everyone enjoyed the trip and learned a lot about the process of growing oysters. Councilperson Dalimonte recently observed two of the three Manhasset Bay locations where the oysters were seeded over the summer and reported the oysters were successfully growing. M. Dalimonte also reported the task force trip led her to explore a collection site at SWMA to be used as a drop off site for oyster shells from local restaurants. They will then be brought to the hatchery to be sterilized and used again for seeding. H. Becker suggested once this is confirmed, a press release with an image of the task force visiting the hatchery will help secure volunteers.
- M. Fastuca reported the Town committed once again to the Mayors' Monarch Pledge and will do more native plant installations this spring.
- M. Fastuca reported April 7 is the next CSC application deadline. The Town's goal is to have the MCAP (including MGHG inventory) completed so the Town has enough points to submit for Bronze Certification.

III. M. Germain and M. Shain of Eco Leap presented their "Know What to Throw" video plan that recognizes most people are confused about how to recycle and properly dispose of waste. The video plan uses an endearing narrator, Harbor the Heron, whose personal story promises to engage viewers. With simple messaging and a positive attitude, Germain showed how the video is designed to jump off the screen and land into people's hearts and minds at Town Hall, drop off events, school classrooms, and the community at large. Committee members were very pleased that the voice over will be recorded by Patty Katz. The committee gave the following feedback:

- Councilperson Dalimonte loves it, sees how it can be used for public education, and requested it be on NHTV.
- C. Frank loved it but expressed concern that Villages who deal with private carters might not follow the same rules. M. Germain and M. Fastuca to follow up on this.

- M. Pitnick thought the concept was great but raised the issue that many don't believe things are actually being recycled and suggested adding a slide with a link to watch how recycling is processed. M. Germain and M. Fastuca to work on this.
- M. Pitnick asked if Harbor the Heron can be animated, and it was reported that we are meeting with NHTV to explore this.
- J. Celender raised the challenge of separating waste in apartment buildings due to lack of space. It was suggested that new construction be required to have adequate space for garbage and recycling sorting.
- S. Cipot requested metrics be reviewed to measure success. M. Fastuca and M. Germain will look into this.

IV. **New Business**

M. Fastuca led a brainstorm to collect feedback on ideas for 2023 public engagement. The following was suggested:

- Renewable Energy @ Home – a look at solar, heat pumps, incentives, etc.
- EV 101 in conjunction with EV charging station installations
- Garbage and recycling in conjunction with Harbor the Heron video release
- Review community survey to identify other areas of interest from the community

V. **Next Meeting is scheduled April 11 @ 2PM**

VI. Meeting was Adjourned at 3:00 PM