

March 18th, 2021 CSC Meeting
Minutes

Committee Members in attendance: Christina Bohnsack, Matthew Mercier, Rose Wax, Jan Borchert, Julia Shanbrom, Tracy Martin, Laura Sink, Garrett Montgomery

Invited speakers: Tom Shannon, Wendy Feiser, Martin Overington

Observing: Kaare Christian,

Old Business:

February Minutes were approved.

Matthew, Christina and Janet have started the CSC assessment process with Cornell and are meeting every two weeks. We expect to be done in two more sessions.

Subcommittee reports

Green House Gas Data Collection: We've collected a good chunk of the data from Government operations, now attending to smaller details—matching up meters with certain buildings, clarification on how the wastewater plant works, getting data from National Grid. A majority of energy is being used by the fleet. Matt has made a contact at SunDog and will meet with Anthony to try and get data from the solar inverter.

We anticipate the passing of a benchmarking resolution by the town board, so that all future data will be entered by the town into the Portfolio Manager.

Energy Audit: Christina met with Dutchess County man who does energy audits, estimated it might be less than \$1000 a building. We've been advised to do all the government buildings at once to keep costs down. We continue to look at various consultants for the audit, including FlexTech.

The solar permit work continues. Jen Crawford has drafted a plan that will be checked by Corinne so that it jives with zoning, etc.

Waste management: We're taking a tour of the Greenport Transfer Station as well as Kingston to get a sense of what other towns do. Also trying to discover private companies that will pick up food waste, and who in town we can partner with. We may do a composting project with elementary school as Wendy suggested it might work better with younger kids.

National Composting Week is the 2nd week of May. The library would like to do a composting workshop, we're looking for somebody to lead it. We'd also like to set up a table during the town wide yard sale on May 15th, possibly in front of the laundromat, to make our work known to the community.

2nd EV station: Matthew volunteered to do the paperwork to get this done. Tracy pointed out it should come from a clean source and the pay rate should be changed. New location could be Library or Town Hall.

New Business

Christina gave an update on Local Champions

We might apply in July, even if we get rejected we'll get a better sense of how to improve by January.

It's suggested we look for a lawyer and graphic designer to be on call.

She had two sessions with certified Silver Communities who've done great work in Kingston and Hastings-on-Hudson, all grant based, and both with small staff like ours.

Shade structures and Hazard Mitigation plan might be some low-hanging fruit to look at next.

Jan, Christina & Matthew attended an information session on ICLEI, a service we can use for one year free if we choose. We can meet with consultant us once we finish GHG data collection.

Estuary Grants

The max we can get is \$50K, the least is \$10K. Require only a 15% match from the town. Our labor would count as the town's contribution. The board suggested we use the money for Erosion Mitigation. We've scheduled a call with Kelsey West at Cornell to help us.

Martin Overington gave a presentation on Lasher Park possibilities. We may need permits before we apply for the grant. Matthew, Jan, Rose, Wendy & Kaare agreed to work on these grants. Deadline is June 1st.

Greenway Grants

Tom Shannon spoke about a trail behind the Parsonage and land beyond, that would help with land conversation and the town's walkability. Might also be a source for municipal water. He's applying for a Greenway Grant, deadline May 1st.

Jan took a workshop on NY Stretch Code, gave us an overview. It will become NY state law in 2023, so making this a requirement for new building in Germantown would just put us ahead of the curve. (See last 10 minutes of Zoom meeting for more details)

Everyone reminded to upload photos to website and log hours.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45.