

Town of North Hempstead
Climate Smart Communities

Task Force Virtual Zoom Meeting #2

Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 3 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Mindy Germain, President Eco Leap

PRESENT:

Elected Officials	Town Staff and Consultant	CSC Task Force Members
<p>Veronica Lurvey, Councilwoman Lee Seeman, Councilwoman</p>	<p>Meagan Fastuca- Environmental Specialist; Planning and Environmental Protection Michael Kelly- Executive Director of SWMA Wes Sternberg- Planner; Planning and Environmental Protection Mitch Pitnick- Deputy Chief of Staff, Supervisor’s Office Erin Molyneux- Aide to Councilwoman Dalimonte Victor Thomas- Commissioner of Department of Pubic Works Maria Lipinski- Executive Assistant, Supervisor’s Office Howard Loewenstein- Chief Facilities Director/ Deputy Commissioner, Parks and Recreation Joseph Canzoneri Jr.- Plans Examiner, Building Department Mindy Germain- CSC Consultant Sarah Oral- PE, LEED AP BD +C, Civil Engineering Director Cameron Engineering & Associates, LLP</p>	<p>Patricia Katz (Patty) Jael Ferguson Jean Celender Paula Groothuis Rosemary Mascali Stephen Cipot Harriet Becker Patrick Farrell</p>

- I. Meagan Fastuca, Town of North Hempstead Environmental Specialist welcomed task force to second meeting and thanked members for choosing a sub-committee.
- II. Meagan then reported on in-progress Climate Smart Community (CSC) actions, noting points for actions submitted are pending until the entire application is submitted. Sarah Oral, CSC Coordinator, strongly recommended the Town submit more points than needed in case some points are not rewarded (as she has seen in other communities).
 - a. **Forming Task Force**- once the Town posts minutes for its second meeting, it will complete this action for 20 points.
 - b. **Government operations GHG inventory**- Meagan started creating this inventory using a workbook from the EPA that other municipalities have utilized successfully. Meagan has collected data on Town utility use, streetlights, and vehicle use and is working on inputting this into the workbook.

- c. **Climate Action Plan**- Meagan reported she is collaborating with Mindy Germain on a draft of this, which is coming along well. Eventually it will go to the committee for suggestions and edits.
- d. **Heat pumps (geothermal) action**- Meagan reported a geothermal system at the YWCC is currently running and includes required educational signage. Documentation has been submitted for this 9-point action.
- e. **Hazard mitigation plan**- Meagan reported Nassau County has a Hazard Mitigation Plan with a section devoted to TONH. This action was submitted for 4 points.
- f. **Water-smart landscaping**- Meagan reported the Town already provides outreach on native plants, including workshops each year, a dedicated webpage, social media posts and ads in Town newsletters. The Town has multiple native plant/water smart installations at the Town's parks. This action was submitted for 6 points.
- g. **Climate Action Website**- <https://www.northhempsteadny.gov/climateaction> - Meagan reported the Town published this a couple of months ago and it was submitted for 3 points. The task force was invited to make any suggestions for content.
- h. **Planning and infrastructure for bicycling and walking**- Meagan reported the Town very recently passed a resolution for a PedalShare bike share pilot program with locations in Port Washington. The Town is currently doing public outreach and gaining community input for these locations. This action will earn 5 points.
- i. **Alternative Fuel Infrastructure**- Meagan reported the Town put out an RFP for 16 EV chargers (8 dual stations) and is currently working on selecting an installer.
- j. **Incentives for Employee Carpooling and Transit**- The Town will be providing pre-tax transit incentives, working with Health Equity in the future. This will earn 2 points.

Meagan reported 89 points have been submitted to date, with 20 more points to be submitted for the task force in the coming weeks, moving the Town closer to the 120 points needed for bronze. Stephen Cipot asked to see the Town's RFP for EV charging stations to understand more of the details of the proposal. Mitch offered to have the RFP distributed. Stephen stated when the Town considers solar panels that they be sourced in the U.S, and to ensure they do not contain PFOAs. Mitch clarified that the charging stations are not tied to solar panels.

- III. Meagan reviewed the actions of each sub-committee, asking CSC committee for feedback on where they want to get involved.
 - a. Sub-Committee 1: Jael Ferguson, Jean Celender, Paula Groothuis, Stephen Cipot, Councilwoman Mariann Dalimonte
 - **PE2 Action: Government Operations GHG Emissions Inventory**- help to create a top line summary of findings to use in outreach as well as shaping prioritize planning; this would occur in the future. Stephen Cipot offered to assist with this. Jean Celender asked how she can be a resource. Analyzing data to set short-, mid-, and long-term goals was discussed.
 - **PE2 Action: Government Operations Climate Action Plan**- review and offer edits; possibly help draft a summary.
 - **PE5 Action: Organics Management Plan**- help to craft a plan that includes record of community engagement, goals, list of proposed management strategies, implementation timeline for one of the following:
 - 1. Prevention- Strategy to educate residents and/or local businesses on preventing wasted food and techniques to reduce the volume of surplus food in the community.

2. Feed People- Strategy to support, facilitate and/or educate community on food recovery (including gleaning) and food donation by working with local food banks, soup kitchens, and shelters to prioritize feeding people.

- **PE5 Action: Waste reduction education campaign-** Meagan reported the Town already does education on composting in their Home Sustainability workshops and by selling compost bins with instruction manuals, however the committee can add a recycling education campaign if members of committee feel this is important.
- **PE8 Action: “Buy Local/Buy Green” Campaign-** For this action committee members would help with planning and outreach of a shop local campaign.

Councilwoman Seeman offered to help with an organics management plan. Other sub-committee members wanted to review the actions in more detail. Meagan reported she will send this list around for feedback. Stephen Cipot expressed interested in expanding Farmer’s Markets in the Town.

b. Sub-Committee 2: Rosemary Mascali, Patty Katz, Harriet Becker, Patrick Farrell and Carol Frank

- Mindy Germain reported on a Sub Committee 2 meeting on October 5th focused on a Town of North Hempstead Community Education and Engagement Plan. The plan includes strategies for: a) umbrella branding, b) stakeholder outreach, c) identifying vulnerabilities, challenges, and priorities within the Town as it relates to climate change, d) fostering a community dialogue around climate change, e) implementing public events that help residents mitigate and adapt to a changing climate, and f) launching climate related social media and expanding the climate action website. Mindy asked the committee for feedback on a public event focused on greening transportation vs. energy. It was decided an e-mail will go out to assess feedback.

IV. Meagan asked the committee if anyone had any new business:

a. Discussion ensued about meeting reminders

V. Meagan announced next meeting is scheduled for January 11 at 2PM

VI. Meeting was Adjourned at 4:05 PM