

Town of North Hempstead
Climate Smart Communities

Task Force Virtual Zoom Meeting #1

Tuesday, July 13, 2021 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Elected Officials	Town Staff and Consultant	CSC Task Force Members
Judi Bosworth, Supervisor Mariann Dalimonte, Councilwoman Veronica Lurvey, Councilwoman Lee Seeman, Councilwoman	Michael Levine- Commissioner of Planning and Environmental Protection Meagan Fastuca- Environmental Specialist; Planning and Environmental Protection Michael Kelly- Executive Director of SWMA Wes Sternberg- Planner; Planning and Environmental Protection Rachel Brinn- Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Supervisor’s Office 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	Patricia Katz (Patty) Jael Ferguson Jean Celender Paula Groothuis Rosemary Mascali Stephen Cipot Carol Frank Harriet Becker Patrick Farrell

- I. The Supervisor welcomed and thanked everyone for coming stating, “We are embarking on a journey to make the Town of North Hempstead greener for future generations.”

Supervisor acknowledged elected officials:

- Mariann Dalimonte, Councilwoman
- Veronica Lurvey, Councilwoman
- Lee Seeman, Councilwoman

The Supervisor went on to describe the Climate Smart Community task force as individuals with an impressive track record of environmental activities, appreciating their commitment and assistance as we reach for our goal of becoming a certified Climate Smart Community. The Supervisor praised this NYS program for providing guidance on best practices to mitigating and adapt to climate change. The Supervisor announced Meagan Fastuca will be leading the Climate Smart Communities task force. Meagan works for the Town’s Planning and Environmental Protection Department on sustainability projects. The Supervisor

concluded by thanking everyone for helping the Town advance this pressing issue that cannot be put off.

II. Meagan Fastuca, Town of North Hempstead Environmental Specialist introduced Town staff and Resident members.

Town Staff:

- Consultant Mindy Germain of Eco Leap will be working with Meagan Fastuca on all aspects of this project including public outreach and engagement and the writing of the Town's Climate Action Plan.
- Michael Levine- Commissioner of Planning and Environmental Protection
Meagan Fastuca- Environmental Specialist; Planning and Environmental Protection
Michael Kelly- Executive Director of SWMA
Wes Sternberg- Planner; Planning and Environmental Protection
Rachel Brinn- Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Supervisor's Office
- Mitch Pitnick- Deputy Chief of Staff, Supervisor's Office
- Victor Thomas- Commissioner of Department of Public 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

Task Force Members (bios will be sent at a later date):

- Patricia Katz (Patty)
- Jael Ferguson
- Jean Celender
- Paula Groothuis
- Rosemary Mascali
- Stephen Cipot
- Carol Frank
- Harriet Becker
- Patrick Farrell

III. Sarah Oral-PE, LEED AP BD +C, Civil Engineering Director Cameron Engineering & Associates, LLP who serves as the Town's CSC Coordinator gave a high-level presentation of the CSC Program, starting with the process of getting started: passing a resolution, registering, reviewing, and selecting actions, collecting documentation and submitting an application. Sarah then shared all ten pledge elements. Sarah will sit in on all task force meetings to provide information and clarify program requirements. Sarah's work with multiple communities will help the process. Sarah explained, "I am not here to tell you what to do, rather help point you in the right direction and answer questions." The committee was encouraged to visit www.climatesmart.ny.gov to acclimate themselves with all pledge elements in more detail.

IV. Meagan Fastuca shared the Town's current progress on CSC actions. Since the Town has already been proactively working on many of the actions, certain point values have already been achieved. For example, the Town is already a Clean Energy Community, has a LEED certified building, a farmers market, brownfield clean-up and redevelopment, conducts composting and waste reduction campaigns, has a Complete Streets policy, rain gardens, cooling centers, water-smart landscaping, and multiple plug in hybrids. Meagan noted the Town conducted a limited GHG Inventory of Emissions in 2010, but it needs to be updated. Sarah reported the DEC put out an RFP for services to help communities conduct GHG inventories that are participating in the CSC program. Megan Fastuca reported Mindy Germain will be focused on Climate related public events and all forms of public engagement. Joseph Canzoneri reported Energy Code Enforcement Training is already underway. Howard Loewenstein reported the Town has 3 Building Management Systems (BMS) systems as well as a geothermal system, which will also earn

points. There were questions from Jean Celender about solar installations. Patty Katz asked if special districts initiatives count for the Town. Sarah Oral responded actions have to be tied to facilities that the Town owns and operates.

- V. Meagan Fastuca requested sub-committee members spend some time reviewing the pledge elements at <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/> and be prepared to pick one of the three categories below in about two weeks.
- a. Setting goals and planning (PE 2), Green Innovation Economy (PE 8)
 - b. Decrease Energy Use (PE 3), Shift to Clean Renewable Energy (PE 4), Climate Smart Materials Management (PE 5)
 - c. Climate Smart Land Use (PE 6) and Resiliency (PE7), Inform and Inspire the Public (PE 9)

Meagan Fastuca also asked CSC task force members to share any special skill sets they have such as writing, analyzing data, or public speaking. Rosemary Mascali stated she has an extensive knowledge base in sustainable mobility. There was some discussion about geothermal, and how it impacts groundwater quality.

Meagan stated that once task force members are assigned to a sub-committee they should review the pledge elements and actions they will be focusing on in more depth to become familiar with the requirements each action has for submission and if it would be feasible for the Town to complete it or not. The sub-committees should then come up with a list of actions that they believe the Town should work on and provide ways that they can be completed. This will be discussed at the next task force meeting.

- VI. Meagan Fastuca conferred with committee and the following meeting schedule was confirmed:
- a. Quarterly- 2nd Tuesday of month in October, January, April, July at 3PM
 - b. Next meeting: October 12 at 3PM

- VII. Meagan Fastuca concluded the meeting by thanking The Supervisor, Councilmembers, Staff and CSC members. Supervisor Bosworth thanked the extraordinary and knowledgeable committee for their participation.

Meeting was Adjourned at 7:50PM