

Draft

June 22, 2023
Town of Taghkanic
Minutes of the Climate Smart Communities Task Force

Present were Doug Craig, Tim Kennelty, Bob Brush, Celine Kagan, Simcoe Kagan, Tony LaSalvia, Larry Kadish, Betsy Albert, Perry Ascher, Robin Randisi, Joshua Kaplan, and David Koehler.

1. The April meeting minutes were approved.
2. Tim reviewed the progress on the Good Plant / Bad Plant series in the Tgazette. After 3 published articles, all are happy with the series and what it offers to the community. These article appear in the Tgazette on the first Sunday of each month.
3. Town Hall pollinator garden:
 - Regarding weeds: Tim and Betsy will spray with deer repellent and then also possibly mulch the garden. Looking good, but evidence of deer browsing.
 - Betsy will purchase a picnic table (ADA model \$425 plus \$25 delivery) from CruzLuis Wood Products, once it's confirmed that the wood used is either pressure treated or rot resistant. She will pass around a hat in case anyone wants to contribute to the cost. We may consider adding an umbrella, and Bob may have that umbrella.
4. Discussion of scheduling a Tree Talk presentation by David Newman from Arthur's Point. Tim will arrange this, after the invasive training event at Overlook is rescheduled. Possibly in July, since we have decided not to have a Garden Tour in July.
 - Update: Tour Dates: (1) Sat, July 15 at 10am and (2) Sat Sep 23 at 10 am and 1pm.
5. Larry will attempt to connect with the owner of the property on Maiers Road to discuss the beaver situation and see if they are receptive to the placement of "beaver deceiver" devices on their property.
6. We will mount one of the "Bronze" certified Community signs outside Town Hall. Cheryl will mount the other one in her office.
7. The first of two scheduled visits from solar providers for Town Garage was on 6/21. Hudson Valley Solar and Wind will deliver quote for roof top solar and for a generator, the purchase of which is also being considered. The second visit will be 6/28 at 7am. Tony will meet at Town Garage.
 - Update: The second solar visit was a no-show. With apologies, Bob Vittengl (National Commercial Solar Advisors) has rescheduled with us for July 11 at 9am.

Draft

8. Discussion of promotion of energy audits/weatherization, how to get word out to lower income folks. Possibly a Taghkanic Talks event covering weatherization, heat pumps, etc. No definite plan at present.
9. Adaptation and Resilience Planning still working on scheduling a meeting.
10. EV Chargers - still waiting on James Buono from Potentia to provide information.
11. Electrical upgrades of Town Hall and Garage: Still waiting on a firm date. Work was to be scheduled for June, but it looks like it will be moved back to July.
12. Repair Cafe event at RoeJan Library on 9/16. Discussion of liability issues. We'd like to co-sponsor event to help publicize and bring repair volunteers (Tony clocks, Elizabeth Craig sewing, maybe Doug lamp repair). Perry will research liability issues with organizers.
13. We welcomed new Taghkanic residents Robin Randisi and Joshua Kaplan to our meeting. They also participated in the planting of the TH garden. Robin has offered to organize a 'Rain Barrel' water conservation project for the town, and we look forward to assisting her in getting it going.