

Oct 26, 2023
Town of Taghkanic
Minutes of the Climate Smart Communities Task Force

Present were Doug Craig, Betsy Albert, Bob Brush, Larry Kadish, Perry Ascher, Jean Feinberg, Peter Paden, Charlene, Paden, Celine Kagen, David Koehler.

1. The September meeting minutes were approved.
2. **Meeting Format.** Discussion of how to manage length of meetings while still addressing agenda items completely. Agreed to target length of 60 to 90 minutes per meeting. Ok to bump agenda items up if someone who has a particular interest has to leave early. If discussion becomes too lengthy for a particular agenda item, the interested parties can continue conversation after regular meeting
3. **Taghkanic Talks.** Agreed that the umbrella of TT should scope beyond the stated role of our committee and include topics beyond climate mitigation and adaption issues. Depending on the type of presentation, Bob will promote at EMC meetings and we will try to cross share events with nearby communities so that we can coat tail on theirs (ie recent Ancram presentation) and they can do the same with ours (ie more communities promoting and attending Affordable Housing presentation). Betsy will contact Joyce about best persons to contact in surrounding towns to share info on their Town newsletters and social media. Perry will connect with journalist Diane Valden. Robin Randisi (bless her heart [a motion was made to bless Robin's heart, was seconded, and the motion to bless her heart was passed unanimously) has hugely magnified our social media presence and we will utilize FB and IG as well.
4. **Discussion of 2024 tree planting campaign.** As presented by David Newman at the 9/25/23 EMC meeting, the goal is to plant 1000 trees in the County on Earth Day or Arbor Day. Potential project locations are the Hudson High School, and the Greenport Conservation Area or other CLC Conservation Areas. Newman would like to involve high school students, the CCCSCTF and other organizations to volunteer and participate in the planning process. Funding will be raised through private donations and grants. There will be a tree give-away for participants. The EMC resolved to appoint Barbara Hughey of Germantown to represent the EMC on the steering committee. Our own Tim Kennelty and Doug Craig are also members of the steering committee, which will meet on 10/30.
5. **(Home Grown National Parks)** We also discussed the idea of finding a location in Taghkanic to plant a public Home Grown National Park – something that can be seen by the public. The possibility of asking Priscilla Woolworth if she would offer part of her property on Old 82 was mentioned. A more extensive discussion of HGNP was put off until next month.
6. **Heat Smart Campaign.** Discussion of EMC info – the County has passed the Tier 2 mark and has been awarded additional grant monies. It was suggested at the EMC mtg that individual

communities investigate how many heat pump installations have occurred in their communities after 6/1/23. The Capital District Community Energy group (Christina Bohnsack) needs date of completion, type of system (make and model) and address of installation. Betsy will check with Building Inspector if this information is available. (We aren't sure Taghkanic requires a permit for heat pump installation). Doug indicated that he did submit a scoping document for Taghkanic to participate in the County Heat Smart Campaign, and he will check on that.

7. **Solar/Heat Pumps for Garage** – Required Public request for bids was placed with no additional bids. Betsy and Doug will review two proposals and Doug will apply for grant.
8. **Report on Repair Café held 9/23/23 at Roe Jan Library.** Taghkanic co-sponsored event (thank you Perry for your efforts) and Ray and Debbie Colgrove and Andrew Soltano participated as “fixers”. Close to 60 people showed up for the 4 hour event. There were 13 “fixers” (knife sharpening, jewelry, furniture and bike repair, sewing and more). Extremely successful event, need a bigger space – it was suggested the Taghkanic Firehouse for the next one. Possible improvements to future events included scheduling repair appts to avoid long waits, and a fund to purchase needed parts and tools.
9. **Taghkanic Talks Schedule** – will discuss at next mtg when Tim is present.
10. **Regenerating Life video** – some concern about message, members agreed to see whole thing before we decide to promote, will be shown at Claverack Library in near future.