

Climate Smart Communities Task Force Meeting Minutes

July 2, 2025 Shaftford Park, New Lebanon. 5PM

Present Julie, Bruce, Bob, Cathy, Frieda, Adelia, Steve

June Minutes were approved.

Chair's report:

1. Battery recycling up to 1301 lbs since the beginning; 172 for current year. Fed Ex will no longer ship them so this presents a problem.

2. Walkable downtown - still waiting for engineer to submit revised designs and for DOT contract

3. New NYSERDA grant - will get more info July 3 about what new project will look like.

Will get help with installation of Town Hall heat pumps including that they are much quieter than AC

4. Water tank will be reburied at firehouse, water harvesting system will be installed.

5. Plastics recycling - 1,035 lbs since inception; this year since 2/9/25 272 lbs - more than in the past esp inclusion of Country Squire.

6. Hazard mitigation – still waiting for county report

7. Bike clinic will be 7/17 now at the Community Center, 3-5.

8. Landfill - Closed on property of ten acres. Construction starts next week. Included a property swap through negotiation with owners, and some continued access across the road to get to their pit

9. Culverts grant - no news

10 Marc and Morgan Brenner, [Marc's former advisor's son who is at SUNY / Binghamton] will soon complete benchmarking of energy use at town hall and garage. Preliminary results show

emissions down 51% compared to 2016;

energy usage down 34% since 2017;

use of paid energy down 40% since 2017.

Figures will be final at the end of the month.

11. EV charger - \$8300 left from \$250K grant. We can sell or donate old one - Josh Young is interested. A new one will cost \$9000, and will include payment of five year annual fee.

12. Housing and Conservation project - No new news since successful community conversation in May. Professionals in collaborative will come up with a plan to be discussed at next community meeting.

13. CLC working on new countywide conservation plan

15. Steve and Frieda working on sign for recycling center

16. Composting - going well - two buckets now at recycling center

17. Trees for tribs - trees doing well. Still watering.

18. Repair Cafe - successful event in Canaan as part of Community Day - next year we will make independent of that event and at the firehouse - too complicated logistics wise. Also successful promotional popup at NL Seniors on June 20th. Virtually everyone in the room had heard of the repair cafe, half dozen brought repairs and another half dozen asked questions and took flyers.

19. Bike repairs – same as last month

20. Free store continues to be very busy.

21. Shaker Swamp - proposal out to Darrow; then will go for grants to get money from State to complete trail. Darrow very enthusiastic.

Adjournment at 5:45pm

Submitted by Adelia Moore