

Minutes of August 19, 2021 Climate Smart Committee

Present at town hall: Mary Frances Sabo, Mike Miner, Morgan Ruthman

Present by Zoom: Eric Westfall

Guests present by Zoom: Bernie Wiesen, CCE, Jill Henck, CDRPC

Ms. Sabo called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

The committee reviewed the Climate Smart certification checklist and the progress on accomplishing the various activities to achieve certification.

The action of recycling at public events was discussed in light of the upcoming town fair. Mr. Westfall offered to reach out to a Boy Scout troop he was connected with to see if they would be willing to handle the recycling at the fair.

Ms. Wiesen again brought up a "buy local, buy green" campaign. She discussed the CCE Harvest Connection which is a database of farmers who do direct sales. It is searchable by product and there is also an accompanying app. The town could link to it on its website.

Ms. Henck brought up the NYSERDA energy code training. There are 2 upcoming trainings that will give credit for both Climate Smart and Clean Energy Communities. If someone from the building department attends this training, the town can get also get credit for participating in a regional campaign. It was decided that Mike Miner would look into attending one of the trainings.

The committee revisited the adoption of an environmental purchasing policy. Ms. Wiesen had circulated the policy that had been adopted by Broome County. The committee reviewed it and determined that adopting a similar policy would be beneficial for the town and recommended that the town board adopt it.

Ms. Wiesen indicated that she was working on a display on resilient gardening that would be displayed at town hall for the fair.

Participating in a national/regional climate campaign and a buy local program was also discussed. CCE has a Harvest Connection website that could be linked to.

Finally, the Climate Visioning Project was discussed. Ms. Sabo will work with Ms. Wiesen to invite key stakeholders to the initial meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.