

## **NYACK CLIMATE SMART COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 13, 2024**

**Attending:** Andy Stewart, Doug Kaufman, Frankie Lede, Glenn Sungela, Shelley Kaufman, Harry Vetter, Kathy Schwarz, Kier Levesque, Liz McGrory, Maegan Ciolino, Marcy Denker, Peggy Kurtz, Steve Cea, Yvonne Rode

### **I. Nyack 2030 Climate Solutions Fair Reflections**

The fair was a success. Over 125 attendees and 45 presenters. While crowded and noisy, it achieved our main goals of introducing the Nyack 2030 brand and the broad coalition of community partners. Some participants are willing to be contacted about volunteering.

### **II. Transportation and Energy Updates**

#### **Community Solar**

Nyack and Upper Nyack to develop and submit a proposal for a campaign run by both Villages in coordination. Joule Assets can find and vet companies.

#### **CCA**

Discussion about how to reduce the number of opt-outs and reach those who have other contracts with other energy service companies (ESCOS) to encourage them to understand the benefits of Rockland Community Power (no surprise price hikes, 100% NYS green electricity). Peggy was asked if it's possible to get the list of those notified and/or other information that could help focus outreach efforts. To get a list of households not on the CCA, Andy and Steve suggested we get a list of all households and have Joule/Rockland Community Power cross reference with the CCA members. Those not on the CCA can be given to the Committee and targeted for outreach.

#### **Steve provided an update on the Drive Electric Nyack and Clean Heat Challenge campaigns.**

Now that the Fair is complete the next steps in the scoping plan involve library presentations, tabling opportunities, Chamber of Commerce car show, etc.

#### ***Clean Energy Communities (CEC) Update***

The Village is waiting for NYSERDA's notification of eligibility for \$155,000 in grant funding that we can use for clean energy projects. Planned projects for the near future are shown.

<b>PROJECT</b>		<b>CEC benefit</b>
<b>Energy Audit of Village Hall</b>		No points Free
<b>Municipal Fleet Inventory</b>	Doug and Andy are working on this	Points
<b>Municipal Community Solar</b>	Working on this with Joule Assets, the administrator of our CCA	Points

<b>EVs Building Department Parking Authority Water Department</b>		Points Grant funded
<b>Chargers 2 Port Replacement Chargers - Veterans Park 4 Port EV Charging - Veterans Park 4 Port EV Charging - Marina Parking</b>	Working on a second grant app to be submitted soon. Expect installation by June.	Points Grant funded (other grant source)
<b>Communities Campaign– Heat Pumps</b>	Underway Working on reaching first tier Focus on hot water heaters to start. Event at the library to be planned.	Points and grants
<b>Community Campaign EVs</b>	Underway Working on reaching second tier Doug verifying the database to get a correct count of purchases.	Points and grants
<b>Community Solar Campaign (Solar for Us)</b>	Nyack and Upper Nyack to develop and submit a proposal for a campaign run by both Villages in coordination.	Points and grants
<b>Permit Offset for Energy Improvements</b>	To be proposed to Building Dept. and then to NYSERDA as a use of grant funding	Grant
<b>DPW Energy Efficiency Projects (Heat Pump, Windows, Air Pears, Doors)</b>	Working on proposal to submit this winter	No Points Grant
<b>Community Energy Roadmap</b>	Analysis by Joule Assets of building for clean energy opportunities DPW Water Plant Firehouse Head Start Housing Authority	Points

**III. Waste Working Group Update**

- **Targeted Door Hanger Project** - Project to encourage non-recyclers in the municipal program to recycle. Coordination with Rockland Green and Keep Rockland Beautiful Door hangers with a friendly message to be developed. Distributed by volunteers April 3 and 10. Maegan and possibly Yvonne to help the KRB volunteers.

- **Outreach to Multifamily Complexes** - Marcy reminded Jennifer Sheridan, Rockland Green's Outreach Coordinator, that we are well positioned to support RG's efforts to get better compliance with recycling laws at multifamily complexes.
- **Textiles** are a significant part of trash placed at the curb. Nyack has a lot of secondhand shops attuned to the problem of fast fashion and the tons of textile waste going to landfills. We will be looking for opportunities to partner.
- **Climate Smart Policies**  
Waste Group is drafting two policies for VB consideration that will be eligible for Climate Smart Communities grants.:
  - Construction and Demolition Waste Policy
  - Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy

#### **IV. Natural Resources**

- **Memorial Park Planning** Nyack has been awarded a large grant to be used for walkways, trees, and other plantings among other things at Memorial Park. Stakeholder meeting will be held soon and CSC, Tree Committee, Pollinator Pathway will be invited to participate.

#### **Next meeting**

March 5, 2024 5:30 p.m.