

## **Town of Hurley**

### **Climate Smart Task Force**

### **Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** December 12, 2023

Present via Zoom: Task Force Members – Stephen Ballentine, Lynne Bailey, Peter McKnight, Erin (Nylen) Saronson, Kristen Schara (Coordinator)

### **Agenda**

#### **New Business**

Hurley Solar Law reconsidered

PE6 – Natural Resource Inventory

#### **Continuing Business**

PE 9 - Climate Change Education and Engagement - CCE Materials

Solar, Heating, and EV Community Campaigns – publicity, outreach to vendors

PCA Building Decarbonization Grant - notification in January

### **Minutes**

#### **New Business**

##### **Hurley Solar Law reconsidered**

- The restrictions for ground mounts are currently pretty prohibitive, you need to make sure it is not visible at all for neighbors which makes it nearly impossible to approve
- The planning board could be given more discretion
- NYSERDA put out a model solar law that we can use to try to update our law to be less restrictive
- We could make a report from the Climate Smart Task Force to the town board on our recommendations using the analysis from NYSERDA we received when applying for Climate Smart
- Kristen will send the analysis from NYSERDA to Peter to look into how we might approach this with the board
- We would also get Climate Smart points and Clean Communities points for instituting this

##### **PE6 – Natural Resource Inventory**

- We got approved for the NRI Grant - will be announced in January! Woohoo!
- Greg Tetrault on CAC has been looking into NRIs since it involves a lot of GIS work so he might be helpful as a lead on this, will discuss with the CAC

- We can also receive Climate Smart points for this once it is complete

### **Continuing Business**

#### **PE 9 - Climate Change Education and Engagement - CCE Materials**

- This is still in development, draft is in the PE9 folder on our shared draft. If Melinda McKnight joins our task force we might be able to ask her to take a look at this with fresh eyes in January.

#### **Solar, Heating, and EV Community Campaigns – publicity, outreach to vendors**

- Meeting tomorrow Dec 13 with other municipalities working on their own campaign and resource orgs to learn more about engagement and tracking approaches
- Currently have an article in the works for the next Hurley newsletter due Dec 15.
  - The team will be making edits to a draft Kristen created today so that we can submit by Friday.
  - In terms of contact, we will put Kristen's email in the first article and then in January we can create a form on the website that has all the information that folks need to give us for us to get incentives so we aren't fielding emails.
  - Erin will work Thursday to reconcile edits to get the final article to Jeremy by Friday.
- We could also talk to Clean Energy Coaches working with NYers for Clean Power to find out who has talked to them in Hurley as they will likely be completing an action. They will likely be in the meeting tomorrow so we can find out how to keep in touch.

#### **PCA Building Decarbonization Grant - notification in January**

#### **Actions that we can work on for recertification:**

PE 5 – Residential Organic Waste Program (Composting)

CEC - Clean Heating and Cooling Demo

PE 3/CEC - Benchmarking - Municipal Buildings

PE 6 – NRI, Zoning for Protection of Natural Areas

PE3/CEC – Energy Code Enforcement Training

PE3/CEC – LED Street Lights – Someday, we're not there yet