

Minutes from CSC Task Force Meeting March 4, 2020

Attendees: Randy Smith, Ronny Hardaway, Lynn Leopold, Brian Shumon, Osamu Tsuda, By phone: Katherine Herleman & Andrew Foster
Excused: Simon Moll

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM.

Brian Shumon attended the task force for the first time. Brian is a resident of Triphammer Apartments who is retired from the Federal Government where he worked for 20+ years in environmental review and geographic information (GIS) positions.

Old Business

- The minutes from the Feb. 19, 2020 meeting were approved without changes.
- The CSC Task Force packet submitted to the Trustees was tabled until the March 16, 2020 evening trustees meeting because Mayor Hartill had not read the packet's documents. Therefore, there was no status change for the CSC Task Force charter nor for any of the PE1 evidentiary documents submitted to the trustees.

New Business

The Task Force continued its discussion on the CSC Pledge Element action steps.

PE4: Shift to clean, renewable energy.

Attendees began evaluating the action steps within PE4, but after discussions, it was determined that most of the PE4 action steps should be left in the Planning stage until the Village decided upon specific projects to shift to clean, renewable energy. There were a few exceptions:

- PE4 Action: Green Power Procurement Policy – A green power procurement policy should be drafted for the Village. The task force will look at examples of such policies from surrounding municipalities or entities to assist with the Village version.
- PE4 Action: Renewable Energy Credits – The task force would investigate if we can receive RECs from recent Village contracts for purchasing renewable energy from a solar power provider.
- PE4 Action: Power Purchase Agreement for Renewables – The task force would investigate if we can receive PPA credit from recent Village contracts for purchasing renewable energy from a solar power provider.

PE4 discussions also included the following topics:

- Clean, renewable energy projects for the Village might include a goal for independence from the power grid.
- Herleman recommended contacting Jessica Verfuss, Deputy Director, Department of Emergency Response, to discuss potential opportunities to secure community preparedness grants in order to site and construct a microgrid to supply back-up power to an emergency operations center and community emergency shelter.

Approved on 03/18/2020

- Herleman proposed that the Village review Tompkins County's 2016 Energy Roadmap created by the county planning department for guidance with clean energy strategies – specifically related to a PE4 Energy Feasibility Study.
- NYSEG & RG&E customers can expect rate increases in the utility providers' delivery charges. Tentatively, the proposed NYSEG increases are 23.7%.
- Herleman will send links to her suggested resources via email.

PE5: Use climate-smart materials management.

- PE5 Action: Government Solid Waste Audit – A simple solid-waste audit might suffice.
- PE5 Action: Recycling Bins in Government Buildings – Recycling bins are already located in Village facilities. Check the Community Room and DPW office and garage for recycling bins and add bins if necessary.
- PE5 Action: Organic Waste Program for Government Buildings – Add composting bins for Village Offices (in the kitchen area) and DPW offices. Policy for dropping off in county composting bins.
- PE5 Action: WasteWise Program – This program is probably not beneficial to the Village at this time.
- PE5 Action: Construction & Demolition Waste Policy – Check if there is a construction/demolition waste policy for the Village. If not, draft a policy.
- PE5 Action: Resource Recovery Center – This is a county-level action and is probably not appropriate for VOL
- PE5 Action: Recycling Program for Public Places & Events – Investigate if the Village should have a recycling policy for public places and events.
- PE5 Action: Waste Reduction Education Campaign – Village can offer evidence county/state resources for education. Village should promote waste reduction education to existing and new Village residents. How do we effectively reach new residents? Publish waste-reduction education via the Village newsletters. Offer county waste-reduction education brochures during voting in the Village polling location. Maybe Village could hold a master composter event with Adam Michaelides.
- PE5 Action: Compost Bins for Residents – Tompkins County does this; not appropriate for Village.
- PE5 Action: Residential Organic Waste Program – Village offers a county compost drop-off point on Village property.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 18 at 6 PM.