

VOL CSC Task Force

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 24, 2020 (via Zoom)

Attendees: Simon Moll, Ronny Hardaway, Lynn Leopold, Brian Toy, Terry Carroll

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM

Meeting minutes from 08/20/2020 were approved.

Status of PE2 Tasks:

GHG Inventory (Carroll and Toy): Toy and Carroll reported that the GHG Inventory is still in work. They are also working with the Town of Ithaca on their GHG Inventory document. They are waiting for information from Cayuga Heights about wastewater treatment data. Plans are to have it ready for review by the October CSC Task Force meeting.

Status of PE3 Tasks:

Government Building Energy Audits (Hardaway): ASHRAE audits are required and expensive. Hardaway recommended that these audits not be undertaken at this time. Future audits might be possible, however. Carroll agreed that since the Village is using a new building, this is probably a valid decision.

Interior Lighting Upgrades (Hardaway): New building uses CFL lighting and they are only a few years old. Later replacements will probably be LED lights as needed. The Village might consider LED lighting in the Community Room, but it is used sporadically and there is no need to replace the lights immediately.

Energy Benchmarking for Government Buildings (Hardaway): The Village will need to pass a resolution instituting annual tracking of energy usage within the government

buildings. To some extent, the Village is already capturing the data, but this needs to be more formal and should be entered into the Energy Star Portfolio Manager.

Fleet Inventory (Hardaway): This task has been completed.

LED Street Lights (Smith): Smith still working on this task. Hardaway reported that the Village is in negotiations with NYSEG to install LED street lights on Dart Drive.

LED Traffic Signals (Smith): Smith still working on this task.

Outdoor Lighting Reduction (Smith): Smith still working on this task.

Outdoor Lighting Upgrades (Smith): Smith still working on this task.

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy (Leopold): Leopold reported that the county is working on an EPPP. the Village should wait and work off of this EPPP. Leopold reported that the county will start with bans, and then will look at purchasing policies later. Leopold will send Montour Falls EPPP to Hardaway. She also researched the EPA site for guidance and gave a short report on her findings. Hardaway suggested creating a list of suggested EPPP products. Leopold stated that these items might cost a little bit more. The Village's impact is primarily in energy and that is probably where we need to focus.

Financing Mechanism for Government Energy Projects (Hardaway): Hardaway recommended not pursuing this task at this time. The Village can reevaluate later.

Energy Code Enforcement Training (Hardaway/Scott): Hardaway received certifications from Mike Scott, but NYSERDA requires two specific workshops that are not available at this time. Mike Scott can take the workshops later.

Status of PE4 Tasks:

Green Power Procurement Policy (Moll): Moll used Montour Falls' model, which is a long-term (2050) goal. The Village is now getting NYSEG delivery and supply. Moll will look into community solar. Carroll suggested looking at the Town of Lansing's solar farm

and look at negotiating a locked-in, long-term power purchase agreement through this LOCAL solar source. Carroll mentioned the recent S Power presentation to the Town. Hardaway recommended task force members watch the S Power presentation. Carroll provided a link to the YouTube recording of the presentation:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EpQsR_sRa54. Attendees discussed setting short-term green power procurement goals to incrementally increase green power procurement.

Renewable Energy Feasibility Studies (Moll): Moll reported that we need the GHG Inventory, building energy audits, etc. before we can start working on the feasibility studies. Moll asked if we could receive credits if Cornell students performed the feasibility studies. Carroll spoke of Engineering Department's Prof. Francis Vanek and his programs. Graduate students might be interested in helping with the feasibility studies. Toy spoke of the Planning Department's "Design Connect" program which is more design than feasibility focus, but they might be helpful.

Renewable Energy Credits (Moll): Moll is still working on this task. He will follow up with Jodi. Past green energy usage probably was long enough to get any credit. Carroll reported that other municipalities are doing this: Tompkins County and Town of Ithaca. He spoke of the New York Generation Attribute Tracking System that is used to track NY-based RECs. Carroll said that RECs can be purchased outside of an energy purchase, but they are more expensive.

Solar Energy Installation (Leopold): Leopold reported on the history of solar installations. Hardaway stated that the Village government does not see enough value in solar installations at this time. Buying into a solar farm with a long-term contract would probably be best.

Power Purchase Agreement for Renewables (Leopold): Leopold is still checking, but she believes that we have no power purchase agreements for renewables. Moll reported that past PP agreements were hard to manage and were eventually dropped. Introductory rates were good, but after that, the rates fluctuated and prices were hard to

monitor. Attendees discuss ESCOs. Carroll recommended that the Village look into community solar farms for power.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM.