NYACK CLIMATE SMART COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Attending: Marcy Denker, Steve Cea, Andy Stewart, Rachel Lovell

I. Communications

Discussion of the methods for communicating within the team and with the public.

The **Sustainability Page on the Village website** needs updating, formatting changes and adding more details on accomplishments and current projects and goals. We will need to find ways to encourage the public to visit the site. Marcy will work with Ann Marie and Andy on this.

For the Climate Action Plan there will be a separate, user-friendly **Climate Action Toolkit** site that will be updated regularly to show accomplishments and keep the goals and actions up to date.

The Climate Smart Committee will have a working page and folder in Google. Having some of it accessible to the public was discussed. Marcy will get ready for the team in the next week.

As planned in the September meeting, the team developed messages about trees and leaf management that went out from the **Village newsletter and social media**. We will be working to improve and increase communications from the Village on these and other Climate agenda topics.

Campaigns, workshops and lecture presentations will be planned for the various topic areas starting 2023.

II. Energy and Buildings

Nyack Water Dept. Superintendent Tom Lynch arranged for interior and exterior **LED lighting conversion at the Water Plant,** and Andy has asked for a proposal from the same company to convert the lights in DPW to LED.

A meeting is to be scheduled to review the list Tristan developed for **DPW energy upgrades**. [Update: Meeting took place on Dec. 2, with Andy, Jonathan, Tristan, Marcy, Steve and the list was refined and prioritized.]

Marcy will complete **energy benchmarking** data entry for the Village Hall, DPW, and Water Plant energy use through 2022 and generate the reports in EPA Portfolio Manager as soon as she can get access to the O&R site. Village Engineer must give approval to generate the reports.

Tristan, Steve and Marcy will meet Dec. 8 with Jared Rodriguez to discuss various energy related ideas as well as community outreach.

Transportation Subcommittee:

EV Stations Grants Steve identified advantages and disadvantages to vendors with the best proposals for the EV station. He is trying to get references for US Energy. The DEC grant awards should be announced in January.

EV Purchase for Building Dept. The CEC \$10,000 grant contract needs to be drawn up with NYSERDA. Marcy is working with Manny on that.

IV. Materials Management

Christina has agreed to go to some restaurants, starting with Karinderya, to ask owners to contact Rethink Food Waste NY and learn how they may be able to benefit from the free consulting services.

Andy and the Mayor met with Gerry Damiani, ED of Rockland Green, to discuss having a food **scrap drop off** at DPW in Nyack. Having the DPW deliver the scraps to the Otown site or to the transfer station didn't appear to be options at this time. Rockland Composters went to the Rockland Green Board meeting in November to ask questions and plans to return at the next meeting to find out more about opportunities and constraints to expanding the program.

V. Natural Resources

Rachel designed materials in various formats for leaf management outreach in October and reached out to the Leaf Blower group to coordinate on messaging. Specific comments related to leaf blowers were not ready, but the materials support the message about alternatives to blowing leaves and disposing of them, and they included the logos of the Climate Smart Committee, Nyack Tree Project, and Pollinator Pathway.

VI. Climate Action Plan

A clerical glitch delayed the **grant contract**, but it should be finalized very soon. Steering Committee- -- Community members from various sectors have been invited to join along with some staff and CSC members. The list has to be approved by the Village Board.

We are targeting February for the **project launch**.

VII. Community Choice Aggregation

The program is set to restart.