

Climate Smart Task Force Meeting December 10, 2019

Members Present;

Co-Chair Daniel Carpenter
Chelsea Henderson
Kate Morse
David Hoffman
Angela Meislin
Michael Mc Loughlin

Co-Chair Kristina Myers
Cindi Wian
Deborah McGloine
Kristi Carrara
Sophia Livecchi
Wendy Lukas

CO-Chair Daniel Carpenter opened the meeting by informing the group that if we accumulate points by accomplishing completion of specific actions as identified on the climate smart website, that this will help us to become eligible for certain grants. He asked members to identify some of the subject issues that they would be comfortable leading. There are over 50 different actions that need to be taken, although some of these actions would not apply to a small municipality.

CO-Chair Christine Scanlon spoke about why it is important to become a Climate Smart Community. The goal of this committee should be to determine what items listed on the website are actions that we can accomplish and will bring us closer to our goal of achieving Climate Smart Community status.

We are hoping to not only curb our greenhouse emissions, but also to look ahead to prepare for the challenges that we will face as climate change progresses.

Dan Carpenter announced that all of the items that were being passed around at this meeting will be available in a google folder that everyone in the group will be able to access and make changes to.

He pointed out that each action item has its own sheet and a description of why this action is important and which local governments implement these actions. They are complete with links to resources that may be beneficial for acquiring background information on them.

Co-Chair Dan Carpenter mentioned that the committee had already accumulated points just by signing the pledge for the village, the formation of the group and appointment of chairs. He also stated that we earned points by hosting a presentation for the solar farm with Nexamp and signing up with them.

Dan listed some of the actions that he felt could be more easily accomplished. The first was a community educational opportunity; PE number 9, listed in the folder, "climate change education." This is an outreach intended to enlist the public in taking steps to prevent further climate change. He listed some of the examples that were provided, such as a survey created through a google form, and educating municipal employees. He noted that these were very obtainable goals.

Deborah McGloine spoke next stated that there were six seniors at the fire house that she had presented to as a green ribbon school person, at this presentation they discussed what she referred to as the three R's;

- Renew your commitment to being environmentally conscious
- Rethink your purchases, she stated that she promoted shopping local
- Refuse to bring items into the environment, thus eliminating the need to recycle.

Cindy Wian of Hudson Crossing spoke of the need for the committee to record the progress that has been made in the past twelve months to be sure that we get points for this. She clarified that the scope of this committee was village wide.

There were various discussions on how to organize the strategies. Dan Carpenter stated that he felt that the google folder would help the group to keep track of what actions were being addressed and who was working on that particular point.

Deborah McGloine stated that there was potential to earn 12 to 16 points each for the following;

- Government operations emissions inventory
- Community emissions inventory
- Government operations climate actions plan
- Community climate action plan

She felt that these were actions that could be completed with the right staff power.

Dave Hoffman was asked to explain what energy emission inventory would entail. He stated that this is simply an analysis and report of the energy used, such as electricity, fuel ect.. Government operations inventory would be easy to identify, using energy bills and fuel consumed. He felt that for the community emissions inventory, surveys would probably be the best way to achieve that.

Plans could be implemented as we gather the information for the inventory.

Climate Change Outreach Education and Engagement was discussed as one of the actions that Dan Carpenter felt were manageable. He stated that he felt social media could be used to inform and educate the community.

It was determined that Dan should delegate some of the tasks that would be required to other members of the task force.

Helene Patterson asked Deborah McGloine for guidance on how she could bring the same information to the ecumenical pastors meeting that will be held on Monday. She hoped that this could be a ripple effect to other churches in the community. Deborah thought that it would be great if we could have one of the pastors on the committee.

There was also a suggestion that there could be a leadership meeting once a month, and a full task force meeting each month as well.

The leadership group was formed as follows;

Dave Hoffman, Deborah McGloine, Angela Meislin and Chelsea Henderson.

Leadership meetings were scheduled as follows;

- January 6th, 2020 at 9am at the Village Hall
- February 3rd, 2020 at 9am at the Village Hall
- March 2nd, 2020 at 9am at the Village Hall

Regular Task Force Meetings would be as follows

- January 14th at 6:30pm at Revive
- February 11th at 6:30pm at the Saratoga Town Hall
- March 10th at 6:30pm at the Saratoga Town Hall

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm