July 27, 2023 ECC Meeting

Attendees:

Tom Konrad, ECC chair Siddhartha Lama, Student Member Alan Newman, ECC Member Lisa Giannico, ECC Member Stuart Leigh, Resident

Minutes

No vote on June minutes

Sustainable Hudson Valley Update

After 4 years promoting 100% renewable, do we know where we at? SHV will look at what progress has been made. Building department can supply a list of permits, which can be used to see what is happening in Stone Ridge. A SHV staff member will examine residential and home permits for renewable energy projects. Might also get information from Central Hudson.

SHV also hopes to design a short Solarize campaign in October: education, purchase opportunities, municipal events.

SHV will also participate in Climate Solutions Week: Sept 16-24.

New Homeowners Coaching Program

No new leads.

Rondout Valley High School Update

Tim Guinee, Samrat Pathania and Siddhartha met for a planning meeting, but haven't set up a date for a meeting with the Superintendent. Siddhartha also contacted Eric and Manna Jo. Sorting stations for recycling have been purchased.

Talked to Eric Stewart about creating a mini-committee for environmental work at RVHS. Eric wants to put together a climate-smart-type committee for Ulster County, which would also have a budget.

Esopus Creek Update

Stewart Leigh has been talking to the Town about applying for a \$50 K grant to be used for a beach sanitary survey; needs 10% match. Could be used for a staged study of the creek from the Reservoir to Tongore Beach. It could focus on analyzing samples for DNA to determine if the viral loads are from wildlife or a leaking septic system(s). Grant will probably not be written this year.

Meanwhile, a stream management program for the Esopus Creek is being developed by Inter-Fluve. Marbletown still needs to say what we want for the stream.

Aug 31 is a walk through at Tongore Park to discuss the developing stream management program.

In addition, FEMA is redoing the flood maps for Kingston, Marbletown, Hurley and other locations due to climate change.

August 9 event at FarmHub. Farmscape Field Day 1:30 to 4:30 pm.

Announcements

Third Thursday Series: Relationship between Bees and Gardens; August 17 at 6:30 pm on Zoom

Adjourn: 7:30 pm

Future meeting dates (6-8pm)

September 28 October 26 November 29 December - None