

## **August 29, 2023 ECC Meeting**

### **Attendees:**

Tom Konrad, ECC chair  
Siddhartha Lama, Student Member  
Alan Newman, ECC Member  
Lisa Giannico, ECC Member  
Rich Parette, Town Supervisor  
Laura Anker, ECC member  
Jenn Sturiale, Rosendale ECC

### **Rosendale ECC**

The Rosendale ECC joined the meeting to learn more about town composting. Marbletown has been composting for over 6 years. Community Compost charges \$90 per month, but removing compostable material lowers the weight of the trash and saves money. According to Rich, it is a service, but we don't lose money. Might also encourage some people to sign up to for the transfer station.

Another possibility is that anyone can get a Marbletown transfers sticker and take advantage of our composting and electronics recycling. Electronics recycling is at no cost to the Town.

### **Bikes on the Rail Trail**

Recent lawsuit involving an accident on the rail trail near Cottekill Road. The accident took place at the steep dip where there was once was a bridge. Area needs better signage to warn riders to dismount.

Update on ebikes. Town consensus was continue the ban on motorized vehicles, including e-bikes (for now), and to post a speed limit sign.

### **Sustainable Hudson Valley Update**

No update. Building dept can give us data on what permits have been taken out.

### **Clean Energy Community Campaign**

Clean Energy Community has new campaigns. It could be a collaboration between communities. The grant has various targets, such as at least 5 clean heat installs; 10 would give more money. No match grant needed.

### **Rondout Valley High School**

The environment club met with Dr. Morgan, Superintendent. He didn't seem very concerned about the consultant's unfavorable comments on electric buses. Samrat proposed an open house to talk to the School Board about issues. Also looking at contacting the BSP to discuss e-buses.

Club is down to 2 students and various ideas were proposed to increase membership.

**Events**

"What Energy Coaching Has Taught Me About Green Investing" with Tom Konrad.

September 20, 6-8 pm at New Yorkers for Clean Power storefront in Kingston and online

Third Thursday: Farming's Effect on the Watershed, with Andrew Foust September 21 at 6:30 pm.

Lower Esopus Stream Management Meeting at Tongore Park

. August 31.

**Adjourn:** 7:23 pm

**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