

Attendees:

Tom Konrad, ECC chair
Siddhartha Lama, ECC Member
Alan Newman, ECC Member
Lisa Giannico, ECC Member
Doug Adams, ECC Member
Ben Ganon, Ulster Co DEC
Melissa Everett, SHV

September minutes approved**Natural Resource Inventory, presented by Ben Ganon**

New Ulster County website that curates a collection of data sets. Main goal is to stream up-to-date data. Included in the NRI are water resources, land use, climate, cultural resources, story maps to help local laws, zoning and subdivision, and open space planning and protection. Close to 80 to 90 data sets. Print map function, as well. Still under development. Find it at <https://natural-resources-inventory-ulstercounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/toolkitresources>

SHV update

Started to delve in successful clean energy implementations. For example, there are 67 EV's and plugged in hybrids in Marbletown, as of 2022. SHV is also "polishing up" the clean power guide.

For next spring: the "coolest recycling drive": Hope to collect old refrigerators. Hudson Technologies will remove the refrigerants properly and recycle the metal. The metal can be sold, which should pay for the workers who handle the refrigerators. Need a place for Hudson Technologies to store items.

Action Grants

Based on the number of air source heat pumps, the Town is line for a \$5000.00 grant from NYSERDA.

The Action Grant program continues for Marbletown. Starting June 1, the Town needs 10 new renewable heat installs for a \$10,000 grant; 15 gets \$20,000. Town is working on a way to directly access install data on building permit information. Installs include residential homes and businesses.

For solar (address, who, date) starting October 11: 10 installs earns \$5000, 50 is the next level. For EV's, starting October 11: 5 = \$5000, 15 = \$7500.

The grant money can be spent on anything that demonstrably reduces carbon emissions.

NOTE: Tom challenged folks at the November 30 meeting to come up with three best ideas on how to spend the money.

Decarbonization Grant

Judith Karpova will conduct an energy audit of the Marbletown Community Center. Engineering report on the MCC is also due soon. The information will be used to apply for a decarbonization grant from Partners for Climate Action. Wendy Saul, Tom, Alan, and Don LaFera are actively working on the grant, which has to be submitted November 21.

Rate correction form Joule

Marbletown's CCA bills were in error because everyone was on 100% NY renewable. Participants will get a refund. (Opt out of the CCA in Marbletown was 18%.)

RVHS efforts

Club fair: 1 new member, possibly 2 more. Meet with UCRA to come in for an assembly to talk about composting. Met with other clubs to request help with recycling and sorting wastes; some clubs were interested. Met with Principal to ask for larger sorting facilities. Upcoming: meeting with new Director of Facilities.

Rondout Municipal Center

Building manager instituted fees for EV charging. \$1 for plug-in and 18 cents/kW. Intent was to make the chargers profitable after annual fee for service and cost of electricity. Tom believes the \$1 plug in fee is problematic and will dissuade almost all charging; thereby, failing to raise significant revenue, keeping owners of PHEVs from plugging in, and increasing gas miles driven. He hopes to persuade the manager to drop the \$1 fee, and just go with a 15 or 20 cent per kWh charge. This should still be profitable and lead to significantly more charging.

Dates for 2024 meetings

(Dates have not been submitted to the Town, yet.)

ECC meeting dates 2024	
Meeting time: 6-8 pm; Location announced on Marbletown.net	
Agenda submission date (marbletownecc@gmail.com)	Meeting date
January 24, 2024	January 25, 2024
February 26, 2024	February 29, 2024
March 25, 2024	March 28, 2024
April 25, 2024	April 30, 2024
May 27, 2024	May 30, 2024
June 24, 2024	June 27, 2024
July 26, 2024	July 30, 2024
August 26, 2024	August 29, 2024
September 23, 2024	September 26, 2024
October 24, 2024	October 29, 2024

November 25, 2024	November 28, 2024
No meeting in December	
Monthly ECC agendas are posted on Marbletown website.	

Announcements

Jan 25: Clean Power Expo.

Third Thursday: Forensic Forestry, Dr. Michael Gaige, November 16 at 6:30 pm

Repair café in the Blackboard Bistro at the RMC on Nov 4 10 am – 2 pm.

Adjourn: 7:43 pm