

## ECC and CSCTF Minutes 26 September 2019

7-9pm, Rondout Municipal Center Rm M-15, 1925 Lucas Ave Extn, Cottekill, NY

### Present:

- Tom Konrad, Chair
- Iris Bloom, Amy Moses, Doug Adams, Members
- Eric Stewart, town board liaison
- Jason Zimmerman, CSC Coordinator
- Melissa Everett, Sustainable Hudson Valley
- Alan Neuman, Town resident

### I. Discussion of draft 100% Renewable Action Plan, prepared by Sustainable Hudson Valley

- Where we need to be in relation to the science and technology and address strategies to meet the gaps
  - Air Source Heat Pumps are cheaper for heating in Marbletown, due largely to the lack of natural gas penetration in the area.
  - Commercial properties are prime for adopting renewable energy sourcing due to their high visibility in the community.
  - The role of government at all levels is critical for adoption of EVs
  - Incentives to local contractors to replace inefficient or fossil fuel appliances with more efficient/electric appliances which can be powered by renewable energy (for example, replace window air conditioning with mini-split air source heat pump; replace oil burner with air source heat pump).
- PR on subject
  - How to project the program into the community and increase participation
  - Business-to-business outreach via RVBA—Eric
  - ECC outreach meeting 24<sup>th</sup> October TBD
- Government action plan—TB passed resolution
- Proposed changes to Town Purchasing policy
  - Government purchasing any tool/vehicle/equipment/appliance over the cost of \$50—if you buy a fossil fuel, have to get comparable renewable quote
  - Estimate fuel usage of tool/etc. over useful lifetime for comparison
  - No device using fossil fuel is allowed to be purchased if lifetime that lasts over 21 years
  - ECC likes the idea but decided the proposal needs more feedback from affected parties before being presented to the board.

### II. Community Center

- About to sign the contract with NYSERDA
  - All envelope work

- Move and replace air conditioning condensers for drainage work to take place
- DOT needs to approve water remediation plans because their right away goes way up the lawn of CC
- Cleaning and tuning of HVAC is included
- About \$50K to be spent from grant, topped up by town if we go over.

### III. County Initiatives

- 15 October legislative vote to amend County's Skip The Straw Law to include single-use plastic stirrers and cutlery. No guarantee that we have the votes for passage of plastic beyond straws. ECC supports Marbletown weighing in favor of this amendment. Iris will write a resolution and pass it to Eric for the TB.
  - "Ask first" resolution (rather than ban) so it should be easy to pass. Saves restaurants, bars and cafes money. Shift toward reusables.
- Ulster County Passed "Pollinator Friendly County" Resolution by legislature. This County Resolution only requires County facilities to be pollinator friendly (no spraying of pollinator-killing insecticides; planting pollinator-supporting plants; no mowing of milkweed during active Monarch months). Therefore the call has gone out for municipalities to pass similar Resolutions on the local level. Iris and Eric will co-present at next ECC meeting.
- Reduced lawn mowing event — will happen next spring. Open to suggestion regarding where it can be held. Access to a pollinator garden or demonstration meadow would be great.