October 13, 2021 ECC meeting

Attending:

Tom Konrad, ECC chair
Alan Newman, ECC member
Iris Marie Bloom, ECC member
Douglas Adams, ECC member
Henry Rich, ECC member
Siddhartha Lama, Student ECC member
Ben Eckstein, SHV
Laura Firestone, RCWA
Melissa Everett, SHV
Eric Stewart, Town Board
Carol Feingold, Resident
Stuart Leigh, Resident

Doug agreed to buy signs for 100% renewable energy pledge.

Minutes approved

DIY installer charger

2 guests for install + videographer. At Iris' house. Suggestion: ECC could do an annual DYI event. Should there be another install giveaway? Possibly as a raffle.

Rondout Creek Watershed Alliance Summit on Thursday Oct 21

Each township would share what they were up to. Each ECC will probably have 5 minutes to speak. Link on FACEBOOK page.

CEC Grants

Almost done on plug-in hybrid for Buildings Dept. ECC board members like the idea of electric lawn equipment.

Future ECC Event

Jen Metzger could be a headliner for a green energy event. Metzger would replace wood stove event for November.

Future Plastics event: Include a speaker from Lion's Club for "bags to benches". A lot of plastic events are in spring. New Paltz Climate Action are promoting tiffins. They are selling them at cost. Could highlight a bunch of local things. Also promote Terracycle, which takes any nonrecyclable trash. They recycle things that are not profitable.

Other future events

Invasive species. For example, jumping worms are moving into the area. Could do a later event on invasives.

Also disinvestments from fossil fuels.

Ecosia

Siddhartha gave a presentation on Ecosia, a search engine that invests its profits into planting trees worldwide. Recommended that everyone use it instead of Google.

Group Purchase

7 proposals out to customers. 4 visits. No installations. People prefer Hot Water Solutions over Rycor. No solar installations. Needs more push, including press.

Renewable Signs

Designer Signs: 20 signs are \$15 a piece. Eric put out a 90 sign for \$100. Prices go down after election. Donnelly Colt in CT are progressives and produce signs. Need to get pricing from one of these groups. An issue of whether the signs are plastic or plasticized cardboard. Aiming for 50 signs.

Pledges

3 businesses have taken the pledge. About 45 pledge takers. Probably 20-30 in Marbletown.

Do a press release around the release of the video of the installation. Push the pledges back to Jan 30? Could do the giveaway based on those who put up signs. Asking everyone to recruit pledge takers, plus events.

Businesses that take the pledge have to commit to talking to the land/building owner about the pledge.

NY State WAVE (Water Assessments by Volunteer Evaluators)

Stu updated the group on collecting biota on nearby creeks. Stu and Alan sampled around 7 creeks, collecting water quality indicator biota that will identified by state biologists.

Stu also updated the group on the Ashokan Working Group Ulster Co, which is having quarterly meetings. Looks like a Supplemental environmental impact statement from the DEP to come.

Adjourn: 9:00 pm