

**Minutes**  
**ECC Meeting 11/30/17**

Attending: Tom Konrad, Amy Moses, Evelyn LaFontaine, Iris Bloom, Doug Adams & Eric Stewart

Guests: Jason Zimmerman, Alain Boppart, Bobbi Esmark & John Wackman

Minutes submitted by Eric

SOLARIZE RONDOUT VALLEY WRAP-UP by John Wackman

John expressed a “big thank-you” to the ECC and said that “Marbletown led the way” in the recent Solarize Rondout Valley Campaign. John also presented the group with a certificate of recognition which Tom is to have framed. 80 solar contracts were signed as part of the Solarize Hudson Valley’s campaigns this year.

John also explained Solarize’s new focus on COMMUNITY SOLAR, a public-private partnership with Nexamp in which anyone who receives an electric bill can now make the switch to locally generated (Peekskill) solar power. Nexamp currently has 23 solar farms in the region.

- 1 Amy asked, “Why is a 3-month notice needed to end a contract w/ Nexamp?” John replied that that is a standard OP and that there is no penalty for earlier cancellation.
- 2 Unfortunately, if one already has solar panels in place that do not supply 100% of needs, you cannot use Community Solar to cover the remainder of the usage.
- 3 20 solar farms are currently in the planning process in Ulster County
- 4 HOMEWORK: John requests comments and quotes on Solarize for use in promotional literature.

John also thanked Tom and ECC for the letter promoting Community Solar that recently went out to Marbletown residents.

CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY (CSC) Update by Jason Zimmerman

Jason has been working on keeping track of CSC requirements and recording our progress since 2015. SCS provides a list of 100 “Actions”—each worth between 1 and 8 points—that can lead to Marbletown’s certification as a Climate Smart Community. Marbletown must earn 120 points from such actions to reach certification. Designation as a Climate Smart Community provides us access to grants and funding. We have 2.5 years left to achieve certification before we have to reapply and start the process over. Jason reported:

- 1 We have already earned the town many 1000s of \$ in energy savings even if we never reach the 120-point goal needed for certification
- 2 There was then a broad discussion of what points for past and current efforts have or have not been earned.
- 3 Tom pointed out the purpose of Jason’s presentation was to introduce Jason to the group and improve communication between us all in order to be sure that we are getting all the points for actions that we are owed and have earned.
- 4 HOMEWORK: We are each to look go to the CSC website, view the 100 actions and see if any of these appeal to individual members. We are also to check list to see if members have already completed actions that could earn points.

ECC & NEW TOWN BOARD: Tom is to reach out to new Town Supervisor Rich Parete, invite him to a meeting, and make a list of projects with which we are currently involved. Tom will also ask Rich if he has any environmental projects/goals that he is particularly interested in us pursuing.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

EV CHARGING STATION: Bobbi Esmark is to talk with Jill McClean and Sandy at the Community Center re: the parking situation around the EV Charging Station to get their feedback as to optimal parking position of charging vehicles. Eric is to complete the landscaping for the season prior to onset of winter.

BENCHMARKING: Evelyn is scheduled to meet with Town Clerk Heather Moody on 12/12 to get copies of electrical bills in order to track energy usage.

OUTREACH: Iris is start a MECC Twitter account

MEMBERSHIP: Tom reports unanimous Town Board approval for Tom to remain ECC chair and Doug to become a member.

ENERGY RETROFITS: Tom reports that the lighting retrofit at the Highway Dept. Building is done! Modeling work is underway for the retrofit at the Community Center is underway. The building will be reinsulated using spray foam insulation by Foamco. Work also done on basement walls and flooring.

STREETLIGHTS: Lights at 209 & 213 replaces with LEDs. Refunds from Central Hudson in the works.

ECC LOGO: Graphic designer Alain Boppart and the group discussed general design directions for our new logo and its usage on various promotional materials. Some rough sketches/outlines/directions were presented to Alain and he is to come back to the group with some designs.

SOLAR LAW: Amy is to meet with solar entrepreneur Tom Kinkanus.

IRIS's EFFORTS: Iris reported that an electrical generating plant using natural gas from fracking is being fast-tracked by the Town of Ulster. Ugh! Plant will also have 2 100' tall exhaust stacks. Ugh! Go to [Citizensforlocalpower.org](http://Citizensforlocalpower.org)., for more. Iris also reports that she is working on establishing a GREEN ENERGY RESTAURANT GROUP using contacts and experience she made while working on the plastic straw issue.

REPORT ON RECENT ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE (Amy & Iris). Both reported that the programming was informative and inspiring, though a bit too "self-congratulatory."

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