

Marbletown ECC Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2016

Present:

Tom Konrad
Doug Adams
Margot R. Becker
Eric Stewart

Absent:

Iris Bloom

1. **Streetlight Update:** 9 more lights to be removed, making a total of 19. We now have 60 lights including 5 belonging to Youth & Rec. 11 are LED. Originally, we had 0 LEDs out of 81 lights, not counting three misbilled lights, which were not ours or did not exist)

Action: we want to report dim lights aggressively as we can get those changed to LEDs for free. Tom sent out the link to the map of lights so ECC members can report dim lights.

Margot promised to check the lights in High Falls. Eric chose a few others that needed to be checked & Doug did the same. Tom said he's check Stone Ridge lights.

2. **Funding Opportunities Seminar:** Tom & Eric attended this meeting on available State money. There are three types of grants:

- (a) Climate Smart Community Grants (these are for non-energy climate projects—eg: sidewalks and bikeways)

(We have decided to put this on hold until next funding cycle, as we have a better chance of getting this money if we have Climate Smart Community certification).

This grant program is not currently funded, but applications for the next funding cycle will likely be due in June.

- (b) Clean Energy Community Grants (these are for energy projects) There will be FOUR \$100K grants & TEN \$50K grants for Hudson Valley small communities. These are given in a first come first serve basis! But you have to become a Clean Energy Community. To do so, we have to do four of ten things. We are discussing
 - i) Achieving 50% LED bulbs for streetlights (we have 11 LEDs and would need 30)
 - ii) Passing Unified Solar Permit (the Town is already working on this)
 - iii) Energy Code Enforcement Trainings (this would require a Town worker go to trainings; the trainings are free)
 - iv) Installation of two electric car charging station (there is county money for this—the county would pay 80% of the cost of installation)
 - v) Clean energy upgrades on Town buildings (we may already have accomplished this via the renovations to the new Town Hall).

What would we use a grant to accomplish? We could pay for a solar farm, retrofitting all Town buildings, etc. We want to ask Board what they want.

(c) Clean Fleet Grants (goes back to the idea of installing electric car charging stations, which would then help us get a Clean Energy Grant)

Actions: Focus on the 4-5 actions we need to accomplish to become a Clean Energy Community; revisit Climate Smart Communities grants next funding cycle. Tom will continue to focus on streetlights. Doug will report to the Town Board, as their buy-in is needed. Eric will work on presentation to Town Board on electric car charging stations. Tom will focus on clean energy upgrades.

3. **Bag Update:** County is considering legislation on bags. ECC would like to support a ban on plastic and a fee on paper on the County level. The ban is no problem, the fee is harder. We think a ban in Marbletown will help Ulster pass legislation and support NYC's legislation, too.

Actions: Doug will feel out the Board on a ban and then we can probably move forward quickly. He will also reach out to businesses to find out more info about how many bags they're using, their info on bags.

4. **Transfer Station Composting Project:** No one is using the composting project now. We haven't gotten our letter sent out to Transfer Station permit holders yet.

Action: Doug will check on what is needed to get our letter in the mail.

5. **Transfer Station ReStore:** The ReStore will take specific items if the TS staff pulls them. But the staff needs to be motivated. Regarding funding, Tom's idea is that we find a wealthy family who wants the tax write off from what the ReStore will give us. They can take the write off and pass the money on to us to pay for the program.

Actions: Doug will talk to the guys at the TS to see how much material is coming through the TS, compared with the ReStore list of what they will take.

6. **Eric reported on the EMC meeting**

7. **Recruiting:** We need more people. Eric has reached out to a few people.

Actions: Margot will write a recruitment letter for BSP and Town Newsletter. Doug will ask the Old Town Hall to post recruitment. Tom will post it on the ECC website.

Motion to adjourn: Eric

Seconded: Tom