

Town of Stuyvesant

Climate Smart Community Task Force Meeting

July 15, 2025

Present: William Schneider, Maria Ausherman, Lee Jamison, Carol Leber, Kathryn Schneider, Hannah Shepard, Jim Werkowski

Absent: Brian Chittenden, Seamus Donahoe, Bob Green, Keegan Oneal

Minutes: Minutes of the May 27, 2025 meeting were approved.

Reports at Town Board Meetings

- June 12 - Maria reported on Don Adam's presentation on Complete Streets. Historic Stuyvesant Day on 8/9 will focus on Getting Around Stuyvesant. She also announced that our meeting time has changed to the third Tuesday of the month.
- July 10 – Jim reported that Ron has submitted a letter of support to Cornell Cooperative Extension for them to facilitate a climate vulnerability assessment for Stuyvesant. He also oversaw the installation of a new bench near the pond at Ken Hummel Park.
- August 14 – Either Kathy or Carol will report.

Old Business—Reports and Updates

Trex Recycling – Carol reported that 1,272 pounds of plastic film has been collected, but we cannot start working toward another bench until in October. Jim and Lee will explore the possibility of locating the next bench along the trail in the woods at Ken Hummel Park.

Columbia County Climate Smart Committee – Kathy emailed everyone information about CLC's upcoming meeting on Saturday, July 19 at Columbia Greene Community College about their Countywide Conservation Plan. Everyone was encouraged to complete their questionnaire and attend the meeting if possible.

Comprehensive Plan – Jim reported that the committee met last week to review the draft comprehensive plan and incorporate comments from the June public meeting. Many of our suggestions were incorporated. They anticipate one more meeting before the plan is sent to the town board for adoption.

2024 GHG data – Hannah updated our Greenhouse Gas data from government buildings for NYSERDA. The town hall is doing well but the garage is not. This data will be posted to the town website. Bill shared an email from Ron informing us that he had met with a representative from National Grid for help getting into an LED lighting upgrade program for the town garage.

PE 6 Natural and Cultural Resources Inventory – We received our official award letter on July 9 and now we are waiting for DEC to communicate with us regarding next steps for getting a

contract in place. Kathy contacted them and asked them to send email notifications to her, Keegan Oneal, and Ron Knott so they won't be missed.

Complete Streets – In a follow-up email after his presentation at the Town Board meeting, Don Adams suggested we pursue grant funding for a feasibility study on developing a connector trail between Stuyvesant Falls and Stuyvesant Landing. Maria will investigate funding sources and grant application deadlines.

New Business

PE 7 Evaluate Policies for Climate Resilience. – Lindsey Strehlau-Howay and Will McCall expect to produce a draft report by July or August and hold a second meeting with us on August 19th. If they get funding for a Climate Vulnerability Assessment, which is somewhat more involved, we might complete another PE 7 action.

Next meeting – Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 7:00 pm.