

**Town of Stuyvesant**  
**Climate Smart Community Task Force Meeting**  
**August 19, 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

Guests: Lindsey Strehlau-Howay, Will McCall

**Minutes:** Minutes of the July 15, 2025 meeting were approved.

**Reports at Town Board Meetings**

- August 14 – Kathy reported that she attended the town board meeting where the Valatie Rescue Squad gave a presentation and the town board voted to send the comprehensive plan to the county planning board for review. The Accessory Dwelling Unit law was also adopted and the board approved new LED lighting for the town garage as a part of a program with National Grid. They also heard that the application for the Stuyvesant Historic District has been submitted. Trash Day is October 4<sup>th</sup> this year and residents will only be able to get a ticket for one trip instead of two.
- September 11 – Jim will attend and report.

**Old Business—Reports and Updates**

PE 7 Evaluate Policies for Climate Resilience. – Lindsey Strehlau-Howay and Will McCall asked follow up questions aimed at completing their draft report, which is 70-80% finished. They met with Ron Knott and Bill Vick and plan to present it to the town board in November.

Trex Recycling – Carol reported that we have continued to collect plastic film which is being credited to Kinderhook now because 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 reported that the committee did not meet in August. A county-wide hazardous waste day is planned for September 13 from 8-12. Kathy will forward a brochure from a recent email with details to task force members after the meeting.

Comprehensive Plan – The draft report is out and available for review by the public. After the county's review a public hearing will be planned prior to adoption. Maria asked if it included a Community Preservation Fund. Jim said, no, it was discussed but with 30% of the town's land already under easement, they committee did not feel it was needed.

PE 6 Natural and Cultural Resources Inventory update – Ron Knott, Kathy and Keegan have been working to provide and upload administrative documents, such as MWBE plans, EEO policy statements, Service Disabled Veteran Owned Business plans, and proof of insurance. Ron has to do a lot of this but once these steps are completed, we will be assigned a project manager to help guide our work.

Complete Streets – Maria and Kathy investigated funding sources that could support a feasibility study on developing a connector trail between Stuyvesant Falls and Stuyvesant Landing. There are funds available but with the application deadlines in early September it seems best to wait until next year.

### **New Business**

CSC Action Review – Everyone was asked to look at the list of proposed actions from February 25, 2025, review the actions on the DEC website <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions/> and report back on things we've done that might be documented to obtain additional points towards bronze certification. We need one more priority action and more points.

Partners for Climate Action Mixer – There is a PCA mixer at the Caboose in Hudson on September 25 from 4:30-7:30. Some of us have attended these annual events in Kingston and Poughkeepsie in the past but this one is close to home and the first time this far north. People are asked to RSVP and Kathy will forward information to task force members after the meeting.

**Next meeting – Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 7:00 pm.**