

Notes

CSCTF Meeting, 3/20/21

Attending: Suzan Flamm, Colleen Lutz, Derek Porter, Jeff Mousseau, Madeleine Israel, Cathy Redlich, Scott Benedict, Kelsey Jean West (CCE) and Jill Falchi-Henck (CDRPC)

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Kelsey West reported that she has begun work on three items to help Ancram become a certified Climate Smart Community. She described the projects: a CSC Assessment; a Climate Smart Resiliency Planning Tool (which earns points towards certification); and a Flood Guide (which also earns points towards certification). Kelsey stated that the town already has several planning documents in place. She invited those on the committee who are interested in participating on this effort to reach out to her. Colleen and Suzan will continue to stay involved and act as resources.

Solarize – Solstice

In advance of the meeting Colleen circulated a report on this project. She updated the report, stating that four people have already enrolled even though we have not yet announced that registration is available. Several have already shown interest by filling out the form on the Solstice webpage. The kick-off webinar was attended by 27 people. Two more webinars will be scheduled, one in mid-April and one in mid-May. She will ask Art to send an email blast on Monday with links to: the enrollment and information pages on the Solstice webpage, the webinar which is on YouTube, and the Ancram Town News article. She will include the Ancram's Bright Idea logo on the email blast. The links will be posted on the town webpage, and also on the ancramsbrightidea.org webpage. She is in the process of updating the Bright Ideas webpage to include information on the solarize campaign, including these links. Solstice will send an announcement by regular mail to all town residents. The last day to enroll is 6/1. After that, enrollment may be possible, but incentives won't be available.

The committee discussed a targeted communication to the people who received LED lightbulbs. Their names and addresses were collected and are on a google doc that Colleen set up (as well as on the hard copy forms that were filled out at events and Suzan still has).

The committee discussed planning an event to communicate the Solstice opportunity. We would set up the table and tent on a Saturday or Sunday, early in May. Suzan will email the committee with a possible plan.

Jill reported that Ancram will qualify for a \$5,000 NYSERDA grant as soon as Solstice has enrolled 10 people.

HVAC at Town Hall

Suzan reported that Jill prepared an RFP for an Air Source Heat Pump system at Town Hall. She had the assistance of Jim Yienger of Climate Action Associates. The RFP was distributed to the Committee in advance of the meeting. Suzan reported that the RFP will be discussed at the next meeting of Ancram's Financial Advisory Council. It is also being reviewed by Bob Travis of CPL, an engineering firm. Once final, it will be presented to the Town Board. This should take place at its next meeting on April 15th. Once issued, contractors will have four weeks to submit bids. The CSCTF will review the bids and, with the guidance of Jill and resources at NYSERDA, make a recommendation to the board on how to proceed.

Suzan reported that at its meeting on 3/18 the Town Board approved the expenditure of up to \$15,000 for one new integrated heating and cooling HVAC unit. The town has three such units to service Town Hall. The new unit is to replace one that is broken and can no longer provide the cooling function. Even though the town may install a new ASHP system, the board decided to replace this integrated unit because an ASHP system might require supplemental heat from a propane-fueled system.

Jill will add information about prevailing wage rates and about the new integrated HVAC unit to the RFP.

Derek will work with Suzan on this project.

Next Meeting

TBD