

Notes

CSCTF Meeting, 1/29/22

Attending: Suzan Flamm, Colleen Lutz, Derek Porter, Cathy Redlich, Jeff Mousseau, Susan Arterian, Michael Roberts and Haley Balcanoff.

Composting

Suzan reported that local farmers may be interested in receiving food scraps to feed their animals if those providing scraps were fairly careful about what they included. A good way to start might be with about ten Ancram households collecting scraps. Suzan will speak with local farmers to see if any would agree to participate. Suzan reported that the county composting program is at a pilot stage but will soon include collection bins at all the transfer stations. Also, the county Climate Smart committee is organizing a Climate Carnival to take place on July 16th. Suzan and Susan are on a committee organizing a composting event which may include the opportunity to buy compost bins from an onsite vendor; they will inquire if there is a way to make these products available to Ancram residents who don't go to the Carnival.

Suzan will write an article about composting possibilities and resources for the *Ancram Town News*.

Institute for Local Self Reliance; Composting Course

Several on the committee are interested in taking the online course Community Composting 101 offered by ILSR. Suzan will let us know how to enroll so we get the group discount.

Strategic Investment Committee; Proposal for Climate Initiative

The committee continued its discussion of two possible climate-related proposals to present for consideration to the Investment Committee. The ideas are: solar panels mounted on shade canopies at town hall; and some form of energy efficiency initiative for homes. Cathy will consult with an acquaintance (who has a renewable energy business) about the solar panels. Suzan will explore existing resources for home-energy efficiency projects and will also discuss this with Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Suzan will bring both ideas to the attention of the Investment Committee while CSCTF continues its research.

County Climate Carnival July 16th

Suzan and Susan are helping to organize a composting educational event for the County Climate Carnival. This will include demonstrations, literature and the opportunity to buy composting bins. There is also an opportunity to have a table focused on LED lighting and to give away the remaining LED bulbs. Colleen, Cathy and possibly others are available to attend the Carnival.

Updates

CSCTF webpage. Jeff reported that the template for the revised CSCTF page is now online, although the latest edits are not yet posted. The link to the page is on the town's website at www.ancramny.org under "committees". Going forward, at least for now, we can send new material, e.g., about the composting initiative or the County Climate Carnival, to Jeff for posting on the page.

Solstice Community Solar: Ancram subscribers are still not receiving the 10% discount on their utility bills. This is because the solar farms that have our accounts are not yet online. Alex Goldfarb at Solstice said he would send an update to subscribers letting them know the status. He has not yet done so. Colleen will remind him.

ASHP for Town Hall: Suzan reported that the town issued an RFP for this project and that it received one bid for the electrical work and one for the mechanical components. The town board voted to move forward with the work at its last meeting. The lead time for the work is about six months.

NYSERDA Grant for Community Solar: The town has still not received this \$5,000 grant for its solarize campaign. The grant request continues to be listed as "pending" on the NYSERDA website.

Bronze Climate Smart Certification; Cornell Cooperative Extension: Colleen continues to submit documentation for this to the Clean Energy Communities website. It appears that Ancram has completed enough actions for Bronze certification.

Cornell Cooperative Extension; Climate Smart Resiliency Planning Tool

The committee reviewed a draft memo prepared by Colleen suggesting three possible climate actions for the town to pursue. The actions were selected from the list on the Planning Tool prepared by Kelsey West of CCE. The committee approved Colleen's selections. Colleen will also discuss the memo with CAC, after which the committees will make a joint recommendation to the board.

Next Meeting

TBD