

**MEETING MINUTES FOR:  
Town of Aurora Climate Smart Community Task Force**

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**MEETING DETAILS**

**Project Manager:** Luke Wochensky, Town of Aurora Councilman

**Date:** 08/16/2023

**Time:** 6:04pm

**Location:** Town of Aurora Municipal Building, 575 Oakwood Ave. East Aurora, NY

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** **Luke Wochensky**- Town of Aurora Councilman, **Sharon Bachman**- in advisory role from the Cornell Cooperative Extension, **Pat Lally**- East Aurora HS Sustainability Club, **Claudia Newton**- ACES Representative, **Susan Russell**- ACES Representative & Village of East Aurora Zoning Board, **Jeanne Beiter**- Senior Program Manager for Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, Village of East Aurora Planning Board, **Nicole Morris-McLaughlin**- Senior Energy Development Specialist, County of Erie,

**Present via Zoom:** **Annika Safford** - Student, University of Vermont, Sustainability & Marketing,

**Absent:** **Joe McCann** - Town of Aurora Councilman, **Lori Borowiak**- NYSERDA Representative, **Jennifer Brazill**, Borderland Festival Organizer, **Jeffrey Shelley**- Environmental Science Instructor, East Aurora High School, Faculty Student Liaison for EAHS Sustainability Club in; **Elizabeth Cassidy**- in advisory role as Aurora Town Code Enforcement Officer, **Jason Kulaszewski**, UB Regional Institute's CSC Initiative

**Visitors:** **Michele/Steve Bjella**- Village Resident/member of Citizens Climate Lobby,

**I. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00PM**

**II. ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION**

- **GHG Inventory** (last thoughts, updates, review): Claudia- “Next Steps” added to submission. Recommendation: updating the data is an annual exercise that should also be reported on CSC website. Meeting with County is being planned for ideas/audit on how to improve energy efficiency.

- **Complete Streets** Luke- Document is complete and is a good starting point. It's available online the Town website. Town roads are also NYS roads, so there is some redundancy with the Town's policy and NYS's. However, there is value in having it because it allowed CSC Task Force to apply for Bronze certification.
- **Task Force Members** Luke- discussion ensued regarding current member status, including 2 students from EA High School, and official or advisory designations. Time duration of service needs to be determined for each member on a rotational 6 year basis.
- **Silver Status Certification:** Bronze certification has been submitted for NYS review. Discussion of potential action points to develop a plan for silver certification. Nicole volunteered to help with Community Choice Aggregation.
- **NYSERDA FlexTech Program** opportunities: Lori - absent
- **No-Vroom July: Luke-** Wonderful success and congrats to Annika and the team! 1200 plus miles logged in, 150 plus participants. Committee would like to do it again next year. Suggestions: possibly include or give some way to acknowledge unofficial participants next year who didn't want to record miles or compete; Also, start one month earlier next year for organizational and promotional purposes.
- **Website update:** Luke/Sue- Website development is in process. Skeleton outline in place. Committee would prefer full website rather than webpage to contain all the required info from NYS. Luke reports that the money for funding the annual cost to register the domain is on track to be approved. Sue needs photos! Group photo, Scoot Around June photos, etc.
- **Composting Update:** Joe/Sue - Joe McCann will supply Sue with DEC Grant access. Farmer Pirates is beginning subscription service in the Village at the end of August. Kim DePerno from Elm St Bakery had positive discussion about potential for info table

and food scraps drop off bucket with Farmer's Market Board member. Luke discussed possible long term goals and strategies for municipal collection of food scraps.

- **Stretch code update:** Lori - absent

### **III. OPEN DISCUSSION**

### **IV. CLOSING REMARKS**

### **V. ADJOURNMENT** - Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm

Minutes submitted by: Susan Russell