

MINUTES – OLIVE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL – August 10th, 2022

Olive Free Library, 600pm

(this is a restatement of the original agenda for the July meeting at which there were only 3 attendees, with additional information in Item 3 plus new item 4)

1. Introductions and roll call. Present: Dan White, Simon Strauss, Co-Chairs; Chet Karwatowski (remote), Matt Kovner, Vikki Read (Town Board liaison)
2. Approval of June 15, 2022 minutes. Approved unanimously.

Policies and Projects:

External Town:

3. Collaboration with other towns (Rochester, Marbletown, Shandaken and Woodstock).
 - Third Thursdays Education – Composting coming up August 18th at 630pm via Zoom (see flier)
 - Climate Smart summit at Rosendale Rec Center Thursday August 29th
 - Climate Solutions week September 17-25 (see flier)

One successful (23 attendees, all virtual) education session was held in July on the topic of birding.

A session has been added for October with Melissa Everett of Sustainable Hudson Valley and Cynthia Nikitin discussing “Placemaking Strategies for Homegrown Climate Resilience”.

Matt

4. Climate Smart Communities and Bronze certification (“CSC”). We have ~115 points out of the 120 point target for Bronze certification accounted for. An OCAC webpage update discussing climate change may add an additional 3 points (Matt to coordinate with Dianna Carchidi); and a fleet inventory of town-owned vehicles, gas mileage and mileage/year may add an additional 4 points. Matt will coordinate on the latter with the Highway Superintendent and Chief of Police.

Matt

Internal Town:

5. Disadvantaged Communities –Olive has provided comments to NYS on why we should qualify (~40% of grants for conservation/environment going forward from NYS are reserved for DACs). Chet will investigate the schedule for possible certification of Olive as a DAC.

Chet

6. Grant Opportunities for Olive

Chet

- The DEC standalone grant opportunities are here:
<https://cfaresources.ny.gov/standalone-cfa-programs> (includes CSC grants)

- Ecological Restoration Grant (partners for Climate Action Hudson Valley)
<https://www.climateactionhv.org/initiatives/eco-grants>
- The Municipal Zero-emission Vehicle (ZEV) Program is on this page:
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/109181.html> (this is time-sensitive)
- Others – Kathy Nolan may have some information on Rt 28 charging stations.
- Ulster County and the Town of Rochester have obtained grants for EV charging.
- Chet is looking into possible IBM sponsorship for computers for youth.
- Also look at larger scale New York State grants for town/village center enhancements (\$4.5 million for larger communities, \$2.25 million for smaller communities). Matt may have a friendly planner who could draw up some concept sketches.

7. Open Space Inventory – Update on DEC Open Space Priority Area project Dan
(link to Ulster County’s open space plan here <https://ulstercountyny.gov/planning/open-space-plan>). Aka CEA. Two area being considered currently – watersheds along the Beaverdam, and above the 1200 ft contour on the south-facing slopes of Ticetonyk and Tonshi in northern Shokan.

8. Envision Boiceville – status. We should hear in November if we have received a grant from NY Fish and Wildlife. Dan

9. Pollinator Pathways/native species plantings. In July Jac and Dan dug holes for plantings at Jo Ostrander’s house at the corner of Rt 28 and Mountain Road. Dan to talk to Ellie re a list of native species to plant. Jac, Dan, Jo

10. Community Choice Aggregation update. Waiting for Kingston to decide who they are using for CCA Administrator. Simon

Administration:

11. Mailing lists and communications Ellie

12. Other business.

- Simon re-appointed to Ulster County Environmental Management Council, subject to Legislature approval, for 3 years starting June 1, 2022.
- No OCAC booth at Olive Day in 2022. Suggestion to ask Ellie for materials to include in the Town’s booth. All

The Ulster County Food Waste Prevention Recovery Act

Are you one of the many Ulster County residents who saves food scraps for the compost pile or the backyard chickens? Good for you. But what about large institutions, grocery stores, hotels and other businesses which handle huge amounts of food and food waste. In 2019, the Ulster County Legislature passed a law to address those unused food and food scraps from local businesses.

Join us on **Thursday, August 18 at 6:30 pm** for a free, live Zoom talk with Michael D'Arcy, Environmental Outreach Manager for the Ulster County Department of the Environment, who will discuss and answer questions about The Ulster County Food Waste Prevention Recovery Act. The talk is sponsored by the Third Thursday Series.

To join the event, simply send an email to thirdthursdayseries@gmail.com.

Third Thursday Series is a new program of online events, organized by members of the Marletown, Rochester and Olive Environmental Conservation Commissions (ECC's). Each month—every third Thursday—the series will present a free, online program on an environmental topic of general interest to residents of Ulster County. The next Third Thursday Series will be on September 15.

HUDSON VALLEY CLIMATE SOLUTIONS WEEK - HOW TO STEP UP!

CLIMATE SOLUTIONS WEEK

Hudson Valley Climate Solutions Week is an annual, region-wide festival of ideas and activities focusing on how we can end the climate crisis. In 2021, Sustainable Hudson Valley supported 38 events at houses of worship, on campuses, in workplaces, parks and theaters. Events ranged from forums and tours to a series of readings, concerts, trainings and a “data jam.”

Climate Solutions Week is September 17 – 25, 2022. Help us reach at least a million people and make Climate Solutions Week a go-to event where everyone can become informed and empowered to take action at home, at work and in the community.

Produce an event: There is excitement in the air as people realize all that is being done to tackle climate change –and ways to be more involved. We invite smartly conceived events that show possibilities from a fresh angle and provide effective ways to take action. We especially encourage events that reach audiences “beyond the bubble” of already-activated people. We will accept applications for events until August 19, 2022 and will respond with confirmations quickly. Partner organizations are responsible for program content, venue, registration and all logistics. SHV and the organizing team will actively promote every event by your side.

Sponsor Climate Solutions Week: Even with partners and volunteers, this high-impact event series is a lot of work. Our goal is to create ripples of followup actions and raise the profile of the work we’re all part of. Sponsors will support the project budget of \$15,000 to capture the full benefits of this collective action. All sponsors’ logos will be displayed on all Climate Solutions Week promotion put out by each partner organization, with links to sponsor websites in all electronic promotion. Sponsors at higher levels will receive additional visibility during the events and media outreach.

SPONSOR LEVEL BENEFITS

- \$1000.00 + LOGO / LINK ON ALL PUBLICITY
- \$5000.00 + SHORT VIDEO INTERVIEW ON CLIMATE SOLUTIONS WEEK WEBSITE AND SOCIAL POSTS; “MIC MOMENT” AT EVENT OF YOUR CHOICE

