

Ballston Green Community Committee

09/19/2023 Session Agenda

Attendees

- Silver Gudbrandsen
- Jon Mesh
- Kelly Jasinski
- Kate Donovan
- Matt Sinnenberg
- Nick Sinnenberg

1) Follow-Up Items

- a) Kate to get contacts for other communities that did the Climate Smart Pledge
- b) Kelly to follow up on town email addresses
 - i) Completed!
- c) Silver to reschedule meeting with Christina
 - i) Thursday 9/7
 - ii) Have a game plan for our October courses!
- d) Jon to follow up with Amy on if we will have technical support on site if needed
 - i) Amy advised that we can contact her if we experience technical difficulties
- e) Jon to reach out to Kris at Prism
 - i) Will be meeting with Kris at our 10/3 meeting
- f) Kelly to get resolution for Climate Smart
 - i) Sept 12 - Town Board Meeting
 - ii) Resolution has been approved by the board!
- g) To find out if we have an approved budget for 2024

2) Conversation with Tara

- a) Overview of Climate Smart
 - i) Different tiers
 - (1) Bronze
 - (2) Silver
 - (3) No Gold or Platinum at this
 - ii) Recommend tracking our points and achievements in the spreadsheets and just using the portal for final submissions/uploads
 - iii) There are priority actions, we have to do (3) to get certified, regardless of our number of points
 - (1) Priority actions are bigger projects that the state has identified—there are (13) on the list to choose from
 - iv) Climate resilience planning
 - v) Jan 1, Apr 1, Jul 1 are the only times we apply for certification
 - vi) 120 points to Bronze, then an additional 180 points to silver
 - vii) Some action items need to be redone every X-amount of years (“Lookback Requirement”)

- viii) Option for “Innovation”--if we come up with a cool idea that isn’t on the list, we can still submit it
- b) What are our next steps?
 - i) Kelly and Jon will submit our pledge, so we can certify as a CSC
 - ii) Silver will set up a folder structure to organize documentation for CSC
 - iii) Silver will set up set up a project tracker to track the CSC initiatives that we are working on
- c) Questions from the Committee
 - i) What are ToB’s sign in credentials for the Climate Smart site? JM
 - (1) Each person has their own logins
 - (a) Need to submit resolution to DEC and then will get approved
 - (i) Kelly will submit resolution for CSC to DEC
 - (b) Can manage municipality’s members
 - ii) Who are the Climate Smart contacts for ToB? JM
 - (1) Tara Donadio email or phone
 - (2) Haley Balcanoff in future after maternity (Tara for now)
 - (3) Saratoga CCE - Kelly knows these
 - (4) Sustainable Saratoga
 - iii) What do points achieve for ToB? JM
 - (1) Recognition
 - (2) DEC grant application points - improve grant applications
 - iv) How do we submit evidence when we have completed a task? JM
 - (1) Upload documents into the website
 - v) How is ToBs data/information protected/secure? JM
 - (1) All documents uploaded will be public. So don’t upload if you don’t want it public
 - vi) How are points granted? JM
 - (1) Upload documents & request points through the website
 - (2) CSC approval team determines points granted
 - vii) What are some best practices to follow? Pitfalls? Advice? JM
 - (1) Put a plan together on what is important to the town
 - (2) One step at a time
 - (3) Establish connections with the people at ToB town hall
 - (4) Stay organized
 - viii) Can we suggest modifications (additions, revisions) to the Checklist? JM
 - (1) See 11 Innovation
 - ix) Can we contact other town’s Climate Smart teams? How do we find contacts? JM
 - (1) Ask Tara
 - x) Our Burnt Hills - Ballston Lake school district extends into Towns of Ballston, Charlton, Glenville & Clifton Park. Can multiple towns receive credit for one task when delivered through BHBL school district? JM
 - (1) Yes

3) Next Meeting Agenda - Tuesday 10/03 at 6:30pm

- a) Discussion with PRISM

4) Homework

- a) Kelly will submit resolution for CSC to DEC
- b) Kelly and Jon will submit our pledge, so we can certify as a CSC
- c) Silver will set up a folder structure to organize documentation for CSC
- d) Silver will set up set up a project tracker to track the CSC initiatives that we are working on

5) Future Meetings

- a) Grant Research - Hazardous waste pick up
- b) Membership
- c) Social Media
- d) Tshirt Design
- e) House Tours
- f) Climate Smart Communities - Identifying which actions we have done - then what to try and accomplish next.
- g) Community Vendor Fair
 - i) Food truck
 - ii) What is our goal for the residents - ie, who to invite.
- h) Topics for the year coming in Education.
 - i) Landis Arboretum or someone with soil health knowledge.
 - ii) CCE as a knowledge base.

Submitted by Silver Gudbrandsen