**MEETING NOTES (abbreviated Zoom notes)**

Sodus Climate Smart Communities Task Force: Monday, February 17, 2022

**Present:** Kate Pobol-Illum, Chrissie Pobol-Illum, Sandi Hamilton (village trustee), David Englert (village mayor), Kim Buell, Jim Wood (coordinator), and Patty McKinny (note taker).

**Welcome: We welcomed** Kate Pobol-Illum and Chrissie Pobol-Illum, owners/operators of KnC Worm Farm which produces natural compost fertilizer and worm tea from worm casting, as new Sodus CSC Task Force members.

**SODUS CEC/CSC ON-GOING INITIATIVES (STATUS CHECKS):**

* **Clean Energy Communities 2.0: Leadership Round:** **Jim explained** this new NYS DEC/NYSERDA initiative to grant points for climate smart actions. Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Development Council (G/FLRDC), Rob Richardson and Jennifer Lowenstein are their reps who are helping us with the initiative. Once we document reaching the point goal, we are eligible to qualify to apply for special funding. **Jim shared** a work chart that he designed to help us keep track of our progress on ***Clean Energy Communities 2.0*** that he will go over at each future Sodus CSC Task Force Meeting until we reach our goal. The most immediate accomplishment will be when Sodus Code Enforcement Officer, Kevin Druschel, finishes NY Stretch Energy Code Training on March 3 and the passing of a resolution by the Sodus Board of Trustees to adopt the new NY Stretch Energy Code which **David explained** are more stringent energy codes for new constructions and major remodeling projects. The resolution will cover projects taking place in the village after the resolution is passed. **Jim also shared** that points are earned for the village to purchase *100% Renewable Energy* for their energy supply. The village just entered a new energy contract with *Constellation NewEnergy Inc*. on 2/18/2022. **Jim agreed** to follow up with Karen Cline to see if it is 100% Renewable Energy or not.
* **NYS Grant for new EV charging stations*:* David reported** he met with ValueStack representatives, Bill Gauthier & Jim Bittker who will facilitate the EV Charging Station installation when funding is available. **David stated** that since adequate funding is unavailable from NYS to purchase replacement village vehicles with electric vehicles, the village will be purchasing internal combustion gas fueled vehicles at least for this next purchase round (2022). **Jim shared** that David Keefe of Greater Rochester Clean Cities (GRCC) the annual *Clean Fleets Survey.* **Jim shared** that hecompleted it for the village and that there were no 2021 improvements to vehicle gas mileage or adoption of alternative fuel vehicles for the village because no new vehicles were purchased. David will sign and Jim will send back to David.
* **NYS****Wastewater Plant & Infrastructure Improvement Grants: David shared** information on the next steps for the new wastewater plant that will be developed using Environmentally Stable Development (ESD) as part of the NYS DEC’ *Water Quality Improvement Program (WQIP)*. Clarification on eligible grants may be available in 2-3 months. **David explained** that the program is designed to change grant funding from upgrading to replacing wastewater processing by using natural environmental water filtration. The village has already received $900,000 that it intends to combine with further WQIP grant funds to lower energy use by building a new system that will be showcased as a modern SMART ENERGY PLANT. **David anticipates** meeting with NYS officials again in April. **Sandi suggested** we solicit allies to support this endeavor.
* **CSC Bronze Level Certification: Jim reported** no new information, but he will give an update at the next meeting (March 21). **Jim will** clarify if the *Clean Energy Communities 2.0: Leadership Round* process replaces *Bronze Level Certification* or is a different process entirely.
* **NYS Expanded Polystyrene Foam Container & Loose Fill Ban:** The law is now in effect. **David reported** that he has not posted the ban on the village FB Page yet.
* **Climate Action Planning: Jim reported** no new movement on the process. **We reiterated** the importance of contacting students from RIT’s Sustainability Graduate program to gauge interest in helping out and inquiring to see if any Sodus HS seniors would be interested in aiming their senior projects (or required community service hours) at helping out with such an initiative.
* **Completed Projects:**
* **David reported** that the Sodus Municipal Building’s new Interior LED Lighting Conversion Project is functioning well in the Sodus Municipal Building, but the village buildings have not yet been converted to LED lighting.
* **David reported** all is well with LED Streetlights with occasional need to fix a couple lights.
* ***Other old business:***
* ***Municipal Building Roof Replacement Leading to Infrastructure for Rooftop Solar with Energy Storage:*** No action.
* **Main Street Revitalization:** No new developments.
* ***Installation of EV Charging Station Location Sign:*** Still slated for Spring, 2022.
* ***Joint Green Utility Initiative with the Village of Sodus Pt:*** No action. **David suggested** that the Sodus Pt. Village Board members or a representative should be invited to join us in the near future. **Jim agreed** to draft an letter of invitation and bring it to the next Task Force Meeting for discussion, revisions and approval.
* ***Our partnership with Climate Solutions Accelerator (formerly Rochester People’s Climate Coalition (RPCC)*:** No update, but David continues to attend their webinars to gain new information and stay connected.

**Next Meeting- March 21, 2021 (6:00 PM) via Zoom**