

Canaan Climate Smart Task Force Meeting Minutes: June 17, 2025 – 7pm

In attendance

Task Force Members:

- Victoria Mills
- Becky Meier
- Mark Harbick (Welcome!)
- Nick Adams (Welcome!)

Outside Contributors:

- Brenda Adams (Town Supervisor)

Approval of May meeting minutes

Motion to approve – Becky, Victoria seconds

Debrief on Canaan Day (Repair Café, Climate Smart presence)

Repair café

- Good attendance at repair café (60 repair tickets). Repairers were happy too.
- Lots of newcomers to the repair café – people had never heard of it but loved the idea. People came from as far as Copake.
- Doubling up repair café and Community Day made logistics challenging. Hours could be adjusted in future.
- Community Day attendance was ~200, good considering other competing events
- Feedback heard: “smaller than last year, had a great time, do it again next year”

Climate Smart

- Climate Smart table was obscured by repair café. Should have been outside and a more prominent part of Community Day. Comprehensive Plan table was bustling so Climate Smart, as another town committee, would’ve had more engagement there.
- Materials: Elyse’s poster attracted some interest. Flyers were not visible. No one donated to garden.
- Next year: prepare farther in advance, create more signage and educational material, think of ways to engage people.

CSC Path to Silver: updates on action items and timeline for completion.

As of tonight, **completed** and **planned**, **151**+**153** = 304 which just clears the 300-point threshold for silver (see [spreadsheet](#) for detail). We must submit our application by July 11th to qualify. All material for submission to the portal should be sent to designated uploaders, Elyse or Victoria.

- **Row 15, 3 points, PE1 Action, Partnerships with Other Entities.** Canaan's relationships with other towns, which includes repair cafes. We participated in the Austerlitz repair café, Becky has the documentation. Brenda is the co-chair of the County CSTF, need to submit meeting minutes documenting this.
- **Row 24, 5 points, PE3 Action, HVAC upgrades.** Heat pumps part one. Percent of total square footage in municipal buildings conditioned by energy efficient HVAC units (heat pumps). Three buildings will count (Town Hall, Library, Garage), fire house is not a town building. Need building square footage, percent of square footage covered by heat pumps. Victoria needs invoice for heat pump in Library.
- **Row 38, 4 points, PE3 action, Exterior Lighting Upgrades.** Inventory of any exterior off-street lighting owned by the town that has been upgraded to LEDs or solar power. Points awarded based on percentage of total converted. This includes any lighting on the town hall, library, highway garage, etc. Nick will do this.
- **Row 48, 17 points, PE4 action, Heat Pumps.** Heat pumps part two. Required documentation includes signage describing of how heat pumps work and save energy. Must have one sign for each installation. Victoria will ask Marion to produce these. We should also issue a press release, which Victoria will do.
- **Row 54, 12 points, PE4 action, Solar.** Having issues with getting the solar system online. The transformer was upgraded, but there is now hurdle after hurdle from NYSEG. It's unclear why these additional items are needed. Victoria and Brenda are coordinating with their contacts to resolve the issue.
- **Row 63, 3 points, PE5 action, Recycling Bins.** Elyse has sent a draft executive order to place recycling bins in all town buildings. Brenda will also follow up on this.
- **Row 67, 1 point, PE5 action, Reuse Program.** The free store from Canaan's October yard sale/repair café will meet the requirement for a small-scale reuse program. Elyse will submit if Becky has sent all the documentation.
- **Row 70, 4 points, PE5 action, Community Repair.** We have gathered all documents needed and just have to submit to the portal.
- **Rows 94-96, PE7 action, Climate Adaptation & Resilience Plan.** Victoria and Elyse will go through CARP and identify relevant items to each action.
- **Row 97, PE7 action, Hazard mitigation plan.** This will not be completed by July 11. The County is behind on the process, and FEMA approval may be delayed due to changes at the agency.

Upcoming events

- Invasive species removal
 - Still no date set. Has to do with when water chestnut blossoms, we think it's after they blossom but before they seed.

Next meeting: July 22nd at 7pm

Meeting adjourned 8:05 PM