

Canaan Climate Smart Task Force Meeting

March 17th, 2026 – 7PM

In attendance

Task Force Members:

- Victoria Mills – Co-Chair and Town Board Liaison
- Elyse Mason – Co-Chair
- Becky Meier
- Nick Adams

Outside Contributors:

- Brenda Adams – Town Supervisor

Approval of February meeting minutes: Victoria makes a motion, Elyse seconds

Earth Day Festival on April 18th at Spencertown Academy

- Starts at 11am, runs till 3pm
- We will do a table:
 - Cleaning heat pumps: Elyse to confirm with Marion
 - LED lighting show & tell: Victoria to confirm with Mark
 - Demonstration of reusable Keurig pods
 - Raffle for reusable Keurig pods bundled with ground coffee bags.
 - Becky offered to buy three reusable pods as the raffle prize
 - Elyse will ask Tierra Farms for a coffee donation
 - Brenda offered the use of the town hall Keurig for the event
 - Mark and Victoria can run the table, Elyse will be there for Ghent & Canaan
 - Email and/or phone number to be given to enter the raffle

Canaan Earth Day Event on April 25th

- Tree planting
 - Highway Superintendent to dig proper size hole and mulch
 - Mark says Country Caretaker will donate the soil
 - Brenda states the soil can be delivered in advance
 - Dylan has offered to water the tree, Brenda will also water the tree
 - Brenda would like to do a plaque for the tree
- Trash pickup
 - Stoddard Park and along the Stony Kill are key areas to target
 - Could also pick up trash near the wetlands on 295
 - Bring trash bags
- Garden Maintenance
 - Elyse to bring a wheelbarrow for the soil
 - Brenda to bring her metal plant markers
 - Brenda will reach out to Highway Superintendent to ask if there are any surplus telephone poles that could replace the railroad ties in the garden

- Elyse to ask Dylan if he will lead a walkthrough of the garden
- Rake the gravel back into the parking lot
- Clean up the tennis and basketball courts
- Refreshments
 - Victoria to bring cookies and seltzer water
 - Elyse to bring sweet tea and popcorn
- Publicity
 - Elyse to ask Marion to make a flyer, may also mention the Austerlitz event
 - Elyse will post on NextDoor etc
 - Brenda could add the flyer to the newsletter if submitted by Thursday

Heat Emergency Plan

- The draft plan is complete and ready for review by Brenda
- Brenda to convene stakeholders to discuss in April
- The town board will have to approve the plan

Benchmarking

- Therese Platten cited resolution passed by the town board in 2018 mandating the benchmarking of municipal energy use in all town buildings 1000 SF or larger.
- Victoria & Elyse to consult Tara on what we need to do for this benchmarking
- Is it time for another energy audit? Find out what technical assistance and/or funding is available.

Climate Adaptation & Resilience Plan (CARP)

- An expert from the Hudson River Estuary program (Neil Bettez) can help towns implement their CARP. VM to invite him to a CSTF meeting this summer.

NYSERDA Request for Information on next grant cycle

- The form to be completed is substantial
- We have filled it out 80%.
 - Victoria and Elyse will set up a time to meet with Brenda to complete the remaining 20% before deadline of Friday, March 20th.
- Priorities for the town in order:
 - Increase efficiency – grants for building upgrades
 - Increase renewables – grants for new energy installation

Comprehensive Plan

- The newest draft of the plan has been released
- Public hearing is March 28th
- Written comments can be sent to Brenda

Meeting Adjourned at 8:32 PM