

Minutes from CSC Task Force Meeting

March 18, 2020

NOTE: Due to the presence of the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) in Tompkins County, this CSC Task Force meeting was conducted using the Webex platform for a teleconference to avoid potentially dangerous face-to-face exposure to the virus.

Attendees: Webex: Randy Smith, Ronny Hardaway, Simon Moll, and Brian Shumon
By phone: Lynn Leopold (late) and Osamu Tsuda (late)

It was determined later in the meeting that Smith was unable to use Webex for audio communication. He sent emails at first and later used his phone to call for some audio input. This raises the issue of informing Webex participants how to use the platform's Chat feature for an alternative communication method.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 PM.

Old Business

- The minutes from the March 4, 2020 meeting were approved with minor changes submitted by Moll and Leopold.
- The CSC Task Force packet submitted to the Trustees will not be discussed until the April 6, 2020 evening trustees meeting because the March 16 trustees meeting was canceled due to the COVID-19 virus presence in Tompkins County.

New Business

The Task Force continued its discussion on the CSC Pledge Element action steps.

PE6: Implement climate-smart land use.

- PE6 Action: Comprehensive Plan with Sustainability Elements
 - Review Village Comprehensive Plan for sustainability elements. Currently, there appears to be only one paragraph of sustainability. The task force should investigate how to expand this paragraph to meet the CSC goals for this action step.
- ~~6.2 Incorporate Smart Growth Principles into Land-use Policies and Regulations~~
 - This action step has been deprecated by NYSERDA and is no longer applicable.
- PE6 Action: Unified Solar Permit
 - Investigate if the U.S.P. could be used by the Village for future solar installation permitting.
 - Use an ordinance (local law) vs "it is our desire to--"
- ~~6.4 Establish Green Building Codes~~
 - This action step has been deprecated by NYSERDA and is no longer applicable.
- ~~6.7 Adopt Land-use Policies That Support or Incentivize Farmers' Markets, Community Gardens and Urban and Rural Agriculture~~

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- This action step has been deprecated by NYSERDA and is no longer applicable.
- ~~P6 Action: GreenLITES~~
 - This appears to be a county-level action; therefore, not applicable to the Village.
- ~~6.8 Adopt Green Parking Lot Standards~~
 - This action step has been deprecated by NYSERDA and is no longer applicable.
- PE6 Action: Complete Streets Policy
 - Partially covered in the Village Greenway Plan but it might need more details to meet this action's requirements.
 - The Village Comprehensive Plan might need to be revised also.
- PE6 Action: Planning & Infrastructure for Bicycling & Walking
 - Addressed by the Village Greenway Plan but it might need to be revised/improved for better infrastructure design and implementation for bikes & walkers.
- PE6 Action: Alternative-fuel Infrastructure
 - Could Village ask BESS installers to include charging stations?
 - Charging stations within Marian Hartill Park and Phil Dankert Park parking lots?
 - Charging stations within restaurant parking lots?
 - Research charging station vendors for electric vehicle charging stations.
 - How do we get credit for what the County is doing with buses, etc? Need more hookups. Currently only at BJ's. Agree with the village office hook up. We have suggested this. Charging stations are popular for restaurants. Who would make sense? Ciao, ????? Tops, Hotels should be prime locations.
- ~~6.12 Implement Strategies That Increase Public Transit Ridership and Alternative Transport Modes~~
 - This action step has been deprecated by NYSERDA and is no longer applicable.
- ~~6.13 Implement a Safe Routes to School Program~~
 - This action step has been deprecated by NYSERDA and is no longer applicable.
- ~~6.15 Adopt and Enforce an Anti-idling Ordinance~~
 - This action step has been deprecated by NYSERDA and is no longer applicable.
- PE6 Action: Natural Resources Inventory
 - Existing NRIs or NRIs in work: Town of Lansing, Village of Cayuga Heights, Tompkins County.
 - Tailor NRI to Village needs
- ~~6.18 Develop a Local Forestry or Tree Planting Project or Program~~
 - This action step has been deprecated by NYSERDA and is no longer applicable.
- ~~6.19 Preserve Natural Areas Through Zoning or Other Regulations~~
 - This action step has been deprecated by NYSERDA and is no longer applicable.

PE7: Enhance community resilience to climate change.

- PE7 Action: Climate Vulnerability Assessment
 - Potentially, another municipality or TC might have this document.
 - Adapt to Village needs?
- PE7 Action: Climate Resilience Vision

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- Identify actions and locations to make the Village more resilient to climate change.
- Most obvious is flooding from extreme rain events.
- Provide enough treated water for everyone.
- Do water purveyors have resiliency plans to support each other in times of drought?
- This might be available evidence.
- Energy backup?
- PE7 Action: Climate Smart Resiliency Planning
 - Tools and discussions to gather plan elements for resiliency.
- PE7 Action: Climate Adaptation Strategies
 - Use the Evaluation tool from CSR Planning to help guide strategies.
- PE7 Action: Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates
 - 2013 County Hazard Mitigation Plan is being updated. (Led by Scott Doyle and contracted to TetraTech.)
 - Can we tailor the plan into the Village's needs?
- PE7 Action: Heat Emergency Plan
 - How to protect people in dangerously high temperature days.
 - Identify/coordinate Village cooling locations
 - Identify/coordinate county-level support
 - Identify local municipalities or County "Emergency Management Plan" for contingencies.
 - Adapt EMPs to Village needs.
 - Look at southern-U.S. EMPs related to heat emergencies planning.
 - Address energy, water, and cooling strains on Village infrastructure.
- PE7 Action: Shade Structures in Public Spaces
 - Part of Heat Emergency Plan?
 - Identify/establish designated cooling stations and shade structures.
 - Shades at street intersections, bus stops, etc.
 - Shading structures could become solar panels
 - Identify examples of shade structures in this general area.
 - Tree-shaded streets? (Triphammer Rd.)
 - Shaded parking spaces (retails parking lots, airport parking, parks, etc.)
- PE7 Action: Watershed Assessment
 - CLWIO participation is used as evidence.
 - The village is part of the Great Lakes drainage.
 - Scale to Village-level watersheds.
- PE7 Action: Restoration of Floodplains & Riparian Buffers
 - Identify Village floodplains and riparian buffers
 - Is any direct work needed around Riparian buffers/floodplains?
 - Small creeks and streams might be possible candidates for riparian buffer restoration.

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- Stormwater Management Plan for the Village might meet some of this action's requirements. (Check with Mike Scott.)
- Storm water runoff. Osamu is helping with his mapping efforts
- Village: everything in the Village runs downhill. We are on a hill and everything goes to the lake. Not sure we have much farm land.
- Storm retention ponds which John (DPW) seems cognizant of.
- PE7 Action: Conservation of Natural Habitats
 - Identify existing lands that have been conserved or preserved by Village. (Marian Hartill Park, between Northwoods Drive and Swarthout, Poison Ivy Point, etc.)
 - Research conservation easements (Finger Lakes Land Trust areas?)
 - There must be legitimate reasons for preserving the land. (A significant natural habitat, for example)
 - Identify potential conservation easements around Unique Natural Areas. (Leopold offered to meet with Hardaway and go over UNAs in the Village to help identify potential easements.)
- ~~PE7 Action: National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System~~
 - Osamu recommends not pursuing.
 - Too time-consuming working with FEMA.
- ~~7.17 Conserve Wetlands and Forests to Manage Stormwater, Recharge Groundwater and Mitigate Flooding~~
 - This action step has been deprecated by NYSERDA and is no longer applicable.
- ~~7.23 Implement a Water Conservation and Reuse Program~~
 - This action step has been deprecated by NYSERDA and is no longer applicable.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 1 at 6 PM.