

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2023

5:30PM

**TOWN HALL 2nd FLOOR MEETING ROOM AND VIA ZOOM
MINUTES**

Present: Russ Kaplan, David Price, Jon Searles, Marty Podskoch and Jack Solomon.

Absent: None

Call to Order: Chairman Kaplan called the meeting to order at 5:34 P.M.

Approval of Minutes: September 5, 2023: *A motion was made by Mr. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Podskoch, to approve of the September 5, 2023 regular meeting minutes with no changes. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

Public Remarks: John Switzer- Mr. Switzer was curious about the task force, so he decided to sit in on the meeting. He spoke briefly about solar arrays in town. Mr. Switzer mentioned that solar arrays would make more sense than roof mounted panels on residential properties.

Town Staff Report: None

Old Business:

- A. Task Force Membership:** There are two open spots on the task force for new members. One member is running for a position on the Town Council. There is advertising on the town website and ads in the Rivereast looking for new members. The members discussed drafting a flyer to pass out at the Energy Fair to possibly gain more volunteers. It was suggested reaching out to personal contacts to see if there are anyone interested in joining the task force. The members also discussed reaching out to students and/or teachers from the High School for possible task force members.
- B. Fall Energy Fair:** The members reviewed the list of companies invited to attend the energy fair. Newington Electric, Earthlight Technologies, PosiGen Developers, Energize Connecticut Mobile Exhibit, and East Hampton's Commission on Aging have all registered to attend the fair. The members discussed holding talks and presentations in the T-Bell room. It was decided to have John Greeno hold a presentation. Another suggestion was to hold a discussion on solar arrays in town with Mr. Solomon leading the talk. The members will reach out to the companies that were maybes or have been waiting for responses. There is a Clean Energy Expo being held on October 19-21 in the Hartford Convention Center. It was suggested to have some of the members attend the expo to solicit more clean energy companies to attend the energy fair. There was discussion on

advertising, promotion, and coordination with the school. The members could go through the PTO for each school to send a flyer promoting the fair home with the students for their parents. The members discussed going around town hanging up flyers and posters in businesses to advertise for the fair. It was suggested to work with the head janitor of the school, Krista for student volunteers, and Laura Wizkowski to help with the fair. They were helpful with last year's fair and past events. An article will go in the Rivereast for this week and the weeks following up to the event. One of the members will draft letters of appreciation to those who helped the fair; like the student volunteers, the Rivereast, and others. It was suggested to put hand out flyers to the local businesses during the Trunk or Treat event on October 25th. A poster should be posted at the Turkey Plunge event to gain more awareness of the event. Mr. Podskoch will be contacting Ink13 for a seven foot sign for the fair to put up on the 'billboard' by the Stop & Shop entrance. The fair will be held on November 4th from 1pm to 4pm at the High School. A flyer listing the participating companies and their information will be drafted to hand out during the fair to people arriving at the event. The members should be at the school by noon to start setting up for the event and have the companies show up for 12:30 pm to set up on the day of the event. The week before the event, an article listing the participating companies should be submitted to the Rivereast to gain more attention. The Task Force should have a table at the event to hand out flyers and materials with information to the attending public.

- C. Community Solar:** There are two tracks the members can go with community solar. One track would be to find people in the community that are interested. The other track would be to find solar companies/ suppliers that are willing to help. A presentation on community solar will be held during the energy fair. It was suggested to see if Earthlight would help with the discussion for the fair.

New Business: None

Public Remarks: John Switzer- Mr. Switzer expressed interest in the task force and the community solar discussion taking place during the fair.

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Mr. Solomon, seconded by Mr. Searles, to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 P.M. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk