

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024**

5:30PM

TOWN HALL 1ST FLOOR MEETING ROOM AND VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

Present: Russ Kaplan, John Greeno, Austin Kelly, Marty Podskoch (left at 6:50 p.m.), David Price and Jon Searles

Also Present: Town Council members Jack Solomon and Jordan Werme, Kirt Mayland on Zoom from the CT Institute for Resiliency and Climate Adaptation and two members of the public

Call to Order

Chairman Kaplan called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: December 5, 2023

A motion was made by Mr. Podskoch, seconded by Mr. Searles, to approve the December 5, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented. Voted 6-0 in favor.

Public Remarks

None

Town Staff Report

None

Old Business

Community Solar Work Group Report and Discussion (John Greeno and Austin Kelly)

The Task Force charged itself with building legislative support for community solar, knowing that the Town Council is asking the State to pass a law allowing individual residents, small and large businesses and others to receive clean energy supply in the way that East Hampton gets its solar power. An immediate request emerged prior to the meeting. In preparation for the January 23rd Council meeting, Council member Jack Solomon asked the Task Force to help respond to a General Assembly concern about community solar: does the financial benefit for community solar program participants result in increased electricity costs for other customers. Others may see the question a bit differently. John Greeno and Austin Kelly are attempting to provide materials to address that concern. PACE and a DEEP study to be forwarded by Kirt Mayland may help in that effort. Beyond this immediate request, John & Austin have been looking at the Town Council and Task Force charges absent a new, more expansive community solar program. The logical place to expand access to locally based clean energy may be through the SCEF program, which is already in place.

Shared Clean Energy Facilities (SCEF) Work Group and Discussion (Russ Kaplan and Jack Solomon)

The Task Force charged itself with doing a SCEF education program pursuant to the Town Council desire to encourage residents, businesses and others to participate in SCEF to take advantage of

the \$0.025/kwh benefit. That effort is underway with the Senior Center, the Housing Authority, and hopefully wider public participation via publicity and advertising. Beyond this more limited objective concerning SCEF education, is John's and Austin's effort to expand SCEF access. An effort that will take some time.

Electric Vehicle Charging Work Group and Discussion (David Price and Jon Searles)

The Task Force charged itself with looking at opportunities for getting EV charging in East Hampton. Locations, costs of infrastructure, participants and possible financial resources are all being considered. Jon pointed out that the financial and logistical differences between level II and level III charging are enormous and will affect what our town may be able to pursue. This effort is underway, but it is in early stages.

Sustainability Work Group Report and Discussion (Marty Podskoch, David Price and John Greeno)

The Task Force charged itself with pursuing and discussing sustainability. In the past, the Task Force unsuccessfully attempted to introduce Sustainable CT participation in East Hampton. The immediate jumping off place is to invite knowledgeable advocates to educate the newly constituted TF. Possible next steps to follow.

2024 Electric Vehicle Show

The planning for the electric vehicle show needs to begin soon. It would be beneficial for the show to be scheduled with other events in town for more participation. The energy fair will possibly be held with Santa's Breakfast in December.

New Business

None

Public Remarks

Peter Strickland noted that he is willing to assist the Task Force when needed but is not able to commit to membership at this time.

Adjournment

Chairman Kaplan adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk