

Climate Smart Putnam Valley, Sept. 8, 2020

The meeting began with a report on a county-wide meeting of towns with Climate Smart initiatives, convened by Joe Montouri of Sustainable Putnam, that Ralph and Bruce attended. The representative from Phillipstown described their approach, emphasizing actions that can be done at little or no cost to the town. Following this model, Ralph presented a list of possible actions for Putnam Valley, along with the assigned points:

Tasks Completed:

PE1: (1.2): Create task force 20 points

PE1: (1.3): Appoint Administrator 10 points

Total = 30 points

Potential Early Tasks:

PE3 (NA): Energy Code Enforcement Training 5 points

PE4 (4.1): Adopt Green Energy Purchase Policy 2-4 points

PE5 (3.20): Provide recycling bins at all government buildings 3 points

PE6 (6.17): Develop a Natural Resource Inventory 8-10 points

PE7: (7.2): Develop Climate Resilience Vision 3 points

PE8 (NA): Community Choice Aggregation 15-21 points

PE9 (9.4) Maintain web site 3 points

Potential Total = 39-49 points

Additional?

PE1 Action: National/Regional Climate Program - Sustainable Putnam?

Schools/Students?

The CCE for Putnam Valley has already completed a natural resource inventory (item PE6), which is available on their page of the town web site. It is possible that we can submit this inventory. Mike Usai is investigating.

Other committee members were encouraged to investigate the other activities on this list, to see what is feasible, what has already be done, and how to procede.

The committee also intends to compile a check list of activities that have already taken place and can be retroactively included. Bruce will check with the Town Hall.

Ralph noted that we can submit actions as we complete them, “on the fly”, rather that wait until we have a sufficient number to qualify for grants.

Jeff Domanski will be making a presentation on CCA to the Town Board on Sept. 16, and it is possible that the Board could vote to authorize the process of researching a town CCA at that meeting. Ralph is drafting a letter from the Committee to the Board unanimously recommending that the town pursue the CCA.

The Committee will investigate the possibility of collaborating with the school system, the library, and Sustainable Putnam—in terms of achieving our goals, but also to find out whether we can include these activities in accumulating points.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn Power