

Meeting of Climate Smart Taskforce  
Feb. 1, 2021

The group discussed the upcoming vote on Wednesday by the Town Board which would authorize outreach and community education as the next step toward establishing Community Choice Aggregation in the town of Putnam Valley. Rules for authorization require a two month education period before a final decision is made. The Taskforce plans to set up a web page linked to the Town Hall page which can be used to explain and illustrate the functioning of a CCA and answer questions.

Ralph reported that he has been receiving emails in support of the CCA, both as a means of lowering energy costs and as a way of addressing climate change and creating a cleaner environment.

The Task Force is focused on seeking NYSERDA certification as a Clean Energy Community. NYSERDA has just launched a new grant cycle, and we are working toward achieving four high impact actions as listed by NYSERDA, which would allow us to be certified as a CEC and eligible to apply for grants:

1. Ralph has submitted documentation for the conversion of street lights to LEDs.
2. The Town Board is in the process of establishing a Unified Solar Permit.
3. A vote by the Town Board to begin the educational process about the CCA would be a major step toward certification.
4. Benchmarking is currently underway, as we collect data to report on energy use by all town buildings of 1,000 square feet or larger. Bruce has accessed the data, and Ina and Marilyn will work to enter it in the Energy Star software.

Ralph will touch base with Anilla about the possibility of NYSERDA setting up a virtual training session for Rich Quaglietta on Energy Code Enforcement, which is another high impact action on NYSERDA's list, but which wasn't offered this year because of the coronavirus.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Power