

## **Climate Smart Task Force- Putnam Valley**

Thursday, March 5 · 6:30 – 7:30pm

Virtual

Task Force: Allison Hague, CJ Brooks, Abigail Arrunategui, Jean McGee, Mike Priano

Members of the public: Judy Allen, Roberto Muller

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm.

The group welcomed Roberto Muller, a Putnam Valley resident and prior Climate Smart Coordinator for Philipstown. He gave an overview of his experience in building passive housing and as a clean energy consultant. Roberto stated that the group could benefit from Philipstown's experience and that collaboration is welcome.

### **Working Groups and short list of Actions**

**(PE5) Food scraps/organic materials management:** Jean, Judy, Julie

The [Organics Management Plan Action](#) will be the focus for this working group. A local food scrap recycling (FSR) committee has made significant progress toward some of these goals, and the working group will identify next steps toward CSC points in this category.

Additionally, the group will continue to investigate grant opportunities for more widespread organic recycling for both government and community use. The next FSR meeting is 4/12, 11:30am at the Putnam Valley Library meeting room.

**(PE7) Lakes/watershed:** Ina, Ralph, Mike P, Christian, CJ

The working group discussed progress and discussions from the recent meeting on 2/28 to develop a Lakes Commission. CJ reported that he is the Town Representative for Lake Peekskill and in addition to repairing the dam, four sonar devices were installed to remediate poor water quality. The Lake Peekskill Civic Association would be a helpful partner in tracking this progress and investigating [Culverts and Dams](#) Actions. Mike P also spoke of his work with CSLAP, collecting data with the help of limnologists on Lake Oscawana, and advised that the Federation of Lakes could be a resource. The group will look into the [Watershed Plan for Water Quality](#) and Source Water protection actions for further guidance.

**(PE2) GHG inventory/energy audits:** Mike T, Dave, Abby, Roberto

Allison discussed individual meetings with Christian to start collecting energy bills for buildings, and CJ to do the same for Transportation fuel from the Town fleet. This would provide essential data for the [Government GHG](#) Inventory which will be conducted by the task force. This action provides baseline information to understand where energy is being used, and how much.

Roberto stated that when he conducted the GHG Inventory for Philipstown, he was able to

collect bulk information from the energy provider. Allison agreed to see if NYSEG could do the same.

Abby discussed the [Government Buildings Energy Audit](#)/Benchmarking actions, which are also priority items. The task force will need to collect a list of the government buildings with information such as address, gross floor area (GFA), utility services (electric, gas, fuel oil), number of full-time employees, etc. This can help us understand which buildings would fall under the local legislation/local law benchmarking requirement that would need to be implemented. The group agreed that starting with an energy bill would give a better idea of the properties which fall under Town purview. The group proposed entering these data into [Energy Star Portfolio Manager](#) while conducting this study. [FlexTech](#) is another resource to provide funding for some of these initiatives. Further discussion is needed.

Allison mentioned that the [Clean Energy Communities Program](#) (CEC) is taking public comment before re-launching Spring 2026. Actions conducted under CEC qualify for CSC points.

### **Other**

Earth Week is now live on the Town website at [Celebrate Earth Week in Putnam Valley – Town of Putnam Valley](#). The group is looking forward to supporting and spreading the word.

The working groups will meet separately in April to focus more specifically on their next steps.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Allison Hague, CSC Coordinator