



## Sullivan County Agriculture and Sustainability Policy Committee

July 19, 2012 AGENDA

12:00 PM

Committee Members:

Cindy Kurpil Gieger, Chair, Cora Edwards, Vice-Chair, Jonathan Rouis, Alan Sorensen, Kitty Vetter

### **Reports:**

1. Agricultural Planner Report – Jen Mall
2. SASD Monthly Report – Dick Riseling

### **Power Point Presentation**

Climate Action Plan (CAP) work in Towns

### **Discussion:**

1. Advisory Boards for CAP & Agriculture
2. Promoting Open Government

### **Resolutions:**

None

### **Public Comment**

## June, 2012 - SASD REPORT OF SULLIVAN COUNTY CONTRACT ACTIVITIES

The Tuesday help desk from 9-5 to assist home owners with their applications for energy audits sees residents come into the office every week. Phone consultations are also a part of our daily work. Meetings were held in the SC/OSE with the NYS Public Service Commission Energy Outreach Coordinator and NYSERDA's Outreach contractor, RUPCO, to coordinate and increase the number and effectiveness of public meetings in Sullivan County on this superb opportunity to achieve rapid gains in energy efficiency, reduce energy use and pollution as well as produce substantial savings for homeowners .

The ARRA Energy Management Personnel Grant term has been completed. It brought the County the talent and service of Carol Roig and Stephen Stuart. Carol Roig has been the lead person on the Sustainable Sullivan and Climate Action Plan projects. SASD is delighted that arrangements have been made to continue her employment throughout 2012 to give support to the Climate Action Advisory Board, Increase the number of towns who have signed the Climate Smart Community Pledge and engaged with the OSE in energy use data analysis, and execution of economic development projects at the town level. Phone and sit down meetings with town officials and volunteer groups occur every week.

Stephen Stuart continues his focus on energy retrofit opportunities of county government buildings and assist in CAP activities in several towns. He has also added bio-mass energy as a major focus so that SASD can provide the county with a template and integrated plan for large-scale solar, wind and bio-mass project development by the end of the year. This information will provide Sullivan County with significant resources for REDC applications in 2013. SASD will present a power point presentation that details progress to date in villages and towns following this report.

The MidHudson Regional Sustainability Consortium now occupies a lot of my time. SASD represents Sullivan County in project leadership roles in 3 of the 9 Working Groups – as CO-Chair of the Energy WG, Liason to the Consortium on Ag/Food Shed WG, and member of the Governance WG. I attend sit down meetings every week in Beacon, Newburgh or New Paltz as well as read and comment on many documents and hold several conference phone meetings. I plan to give an accounting of this work in detail in August.

SASD continues to monitor the 50kw pv installation at the Robert Travis building.

I spoke at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual International WindMillers Trade Fair in Chicago over the weekend. Stephen Stuart attended the 2 day North Country Clean Energy Workshop in Lake Placid. These and similar events in the past are accomplished with no cost to the County contract with SASD.

SASD met with the Strategic Planning Committee and is very appreciative of the generous time opportunity to exchange ideas afforded at that meeting.