



Sullivan County Agriculture and Sustainability Policy Committee

December 5, 2013 AGENDA

2:00 PM

Committee Members:

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

Call to Order

Attendance

Comments: Committee Chair

Reports:

1. Office of Sustainable Energy (OSE) Monthly Report- Carol Roig & Stephen Stuart
2. Agricultural Report- Jill Weyer
3. Update HVAC System – DPW

Presentation:

1. Overview of Key Components of Part 1 of the Draft Climate Action Plan- County Goals and Measures

Discussion:

1. Energy Management - LED Savings vs. Current Costs
2. Travis Solar Project Cost Savings
3. Farm Tech summit – SUNY
4. Maintain OSE Funding through Department of Planning to Continue Initiatives

Resolutions: None

Public Comment

Adjourn

OSE Activities Report for December 2013

Reporting on November 2013 activities

I. ENERGY MANAGEMENT FOR SC FACILITIES

NYPA Potential for HVAC replacement at SC Government Center

- Legislature has voted to authorize the County Manager to sign a letter of agreement with the New York Power Authority (NYPA) to perform an assessment at the GC.
- Ravi Shankar of NYPA has requested past 24 months of utility data (electric and oil) for the Government Center, to begin NYPA's analysis.

LED lighting Retrofit for the GC

- Winwater has completed a preliminary study of lighting retrofits utilizing LEDs for indoor and outdoor applications at the Government Center.

County Jail

OSE continues to research LEED and other sustainability standards for jails including:

- Energy cost savings;
- Reduced operating and maintenance costs;
- Potential effects on health and wellbeing of jail staff, corrections officers.

II. SC CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

OSE is completing the preliminary draft of the County measures section of the Climate Action Plan.

Work includes:

- Summary and characterization of the County's GHG emissions from County operations
- Goals and specific measures to reduce GHG reduction and/or adapt to climate impacts relating to energy, transportation (county fleet), materials management, land/water use, and public health.
- Potential cost savings.
- Table of short term (5 years) priority projects endorsed by DPW.
- Met with Ana Hagerup and Kari Hewitt of VHB on November 12. This engineering firm has been engaged by NYS to provide technical assistance on GHG data. We were joined by Cindy Gieger and Scott Samuelson.

III. Outreach on Climate Smart Communities Program

- CAP Advisory Board member Ada Cole has approached Fallsburg Town Supervisor Steven Vegliante about the program. We hope to give a CAP presentation to the Fallsburg Town Board at one of their December meetings.
- We attended a meeting with VHB and the Town of Tusten Energy Committee, which will receive targeted support from VHB to identify potential funding for their energy projects.

Ag Planner Projects:

Ag Planner position: Conducted final interviews and offered job to one of the applicants. Awaiting response and final paperwork to proceed. Anticipate start date to be February 1, 2013 but hope to have them on board before then.

Dairy Processing RBEG: Applicant is still trying to secure a space and work with local dairy farmers. Will be working aggressively to complete this project. Received an extension until October 2014 to complete.

Microenterprise Assistance Program: Project ended. In the process of submitting final paperwork to closeout grant program.

Sullivan County Farmland Protection Planning Grant: First kick-off meeting was a success. Next meeting scheduled for December 11th at 1PM for next steps.

Red Meat Processing Facility: Available to assist IDA as needed to complete this much needed project.

Harvesting Opportunities Workshop: Attended the one-day conference in Albany on November 20th. Received some great information and met some great resources for moving ag initiatives forward in the County.

Farming & Food Tech Summit: Attended this summit at SUNY SCCC on November 25th, facilitated by Karin Hilgerson, Congressman Gibson, Todd Erling, Marc Baez and Vince Cozzolino to discuss the production of food and related crops and the manufacturing and packaging of it for distribution and sale. I have been asked to sit on the collaborative team for the project should the Sullivan 2020 grant be awarded.

Upcoming Events:

Ag Advisory Board: meeting scheduled for December 11th at 1PM

REAP Board: meeting scheduled for February 5, 2014 at 9AM

Sullivan County Wellness Committee: nothing to report

Ag and Farmland Protection Board: none scheduled at this time