



## Sullivan County Agriculture and Sustainability Policy Committee

January 12, 2017 AGENDA  
12:30 PM

Committee Members:

Catherine Owens, Chair, Nadia Rasjz, Vice-Chair, Mark McCarthy, Terri Ward, Scott Samuelson

### Call to Order

### Attendance

Comments: Committee Chair

### Presentation:

1. Kerron Barnes, Forever Wild

### Reports:

1. Agricultural Report- Melinda Meddaugh
2. Office of Sustainable Energy (OSE) Monthly Report- Carol Roig & Stephen Stuart

Discussion: None

Resolutions:

Public Comment

Adjourn

**SC Office of Sustainable Energy (OSE) Activities Report for January 2017**

Reporting on December 2016

As this is SASD's final report to the Committee under contract to provide services to the Sullivan County Office of Sustainable Energy, we want to report on recent activities and provide a summary of the office's accomplishments over the past 8 years.

**I. ADDRESSING ZONING AND PERMITTING FOR SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS IN SULLIVAN COUNTY**

The prospect of large scale solar energy development in Sullivan County has raised a number of issues for towns that need to get their zoning in order and educate their residents about the opportunities and possible land use concerns associated with large solar arrays. SASD has worked with the SC Division of Planning and Environmental Management to provide informational presentations and individual assistance to towns. We have based this work on the NYS Model Solar Zoning Law along with research into high-quality solar zoning adopted in other locales.

- The Town of Bethel Green Committee has completed a draft law and submitted it to the Planning Board for review. Their public hearing will take place in late January.
- SASD provided consultation to the Town of Mamakating.
- The Town of Tusten has requested guidance and will begin work soon.
- The Town of Highland has asked its Energy and Environment Committee to develop a draft solar zoning law for inclusion in the zoning update underway now.
- The Town of Thompson has requested guidance and consultation as they complete their solar zoning law.
- The Town of Liberty has also requested assistance.

We continue work on an FAQ-style informational handout that can also be posted on the County web site.

**II. CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES**

With the prospect of concrete grant opportunities exclusive to CSC member municipalities, towns have stepped up their interest in fulfilling pledge elements and working towards certification.

- The Town of Highland has been awarded a \$489,000 grant through the Cleaner Greener Communities program for a new town highway department town garage. The grant, open only to CSC municipalities, is designed to help towns relocate climate-vulnerable facilities. Stephen Stuart and Carol Roig alerted the town to the grant opportunity and helped develop the grant proposal.
- The Town of Delaware, also a CSC member, has requested assistance for a similar project in 2017.

**III. OTHER OUTREACH AND CONSULTATIONS**

SASD provided energy consultations to more than 20 groups, businesses and residential property owners in 2016. These range from phone consultations and research to site visits, energy walk-throughs and written reports with recommendations for energy efficiency measures, HVAC and other equipment, and potential for renewable energy installations, with referrals to qualified local contractors and funding programs.

**IV. PLANS FOR 2017**

The OSE team has worked with Heather Brown to plan for the transition to an in-house OSE operation and to develop goals and priorities for 2017. Priority items include:

- Research and development of data for a fuel-efficient fleet policy for County vehicles.
- Mapping of solar resources in Sullivan County
- Opportunities for battery back-up of solar generation at County sites
- Development of outreach materials for public information and engagement.

## SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING - MONTHLY REPORT

Month	2015 tonnage (T)	2016 tonnage (T)
January	2,368	2,846
February	2,212	3,045
March	3,075	3,884
April	3,908	4,055
May	4,274	4,776
June	5,757	6,532
July	9,188	9,418
August	8,486	10,205
September	4,755	5,462
October	4,045	3,964
November	3,403	3,760
December	4,436	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55,907</b>	

(T) - Total Monticello Transfer Station

### SOLID WASTE

- Continued tracking of the Monticello Transfer Station tonnage for invoice review and reporting
- Prepared and submitted monthly SPDES reports in accordance with NYSDEC permit conditions
- Continued preparation of annual reports for the Landfill
- Compiled closed capped Landfill reporting data
- Continued review of Transfer Station tonnages
- Began review and issuance of 2017 Hauler Permits

### RECYCLING

- Coordinated Removal of Electronic Waste, Fluorescent Lamps and Batteries vendor preparation & clear-out of Government Center & transfer stations
- Continued coordination of NYSDEC E-Waste reimbursement grant documentation for 50% match funding opportunity
- Prohibition Distillery recycling defective glass and cardboard packaging
- Coordinated Propane Tank Removal purchase order and storage bin placements with new vendor, Porco Energy
- Attended Sustainability Sullivan meeting with Hospitality Green
- Reviewed Compost Program opportunities
- NYSDEC E-Waste 50% Reimbursement Funding secured, \$17,435.83
- NYSDEC HHW 50% Reimbursement Funding secured for 2015 Collection Events, \$9,536.38

- 2016 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Performance Measures report prepared
- Public Works Committee recycling & HHW updates
- Determined number of 2017 HHW Collection Events to implement
- Single Stream Recycling Program ongoing education/program promotion
- Continued marketing coordination with Treasurers Department and Office of General Services for marketing, sale and tracking of recyclables
- Continued review of Materials Management Program water & leachate sampling invoices from Pace Analytical Laboratories