



## Sullivan County Agricultural and Sustainability Committee

December 14, 2017 AGENDA  
12:30 PM

Committee Members:

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

### **Call to Order**

### **Comments:**

### **Discussion:**

Energize NY/C-PACE Amendments

### **Reports:**

Office of Sustainable Energy – Heather Brown

Parks and Recreation- Brian Scardefield

Agricultural Report- Melinda Meddaugh

### **Public Comment**

### **Adjourn**



**Sullivan County Office of Sustainable Energy**  
SULLIVAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER  
PO BOX 5012  
AddressCity, AddressState, AddressPostal

Sullivan County Office of Sustainable Energy Monthly Report for November 2017

*Benchmarking*

- In accordance with Sullivan County's Benchmarking Policy, data for FY 2016 has been uploaded to OSE's website. This represents a baseline of our buildings' performance and we will be able to make year to year comparisons moving forward. We anticipate that 2017 will begin to show some significant improvements, particularly in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter for the Government Center as progress was made on the NYPA project.
- Staff in OSE are updating our benchmarking data on a regular basis. We analyze and enter more than 100 electric bills into the Portfolio Manager benchmarking software every month, as well as fuel data including fuel oil and propane.

*Energize NY/C-PACE Updates*

- The Governor signed several amendments to the C-PACE (Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy) legislation into law. Participating municipalities have been requested to update their local laws to mirror the state legislation in order to effectuate these PACE enhancements locally. The Sullivan County Legislature passed "PACE 1.0" in 2016.
- OSE has been working with the County Manager's Office, County Attorney's Office and County Treasurer to review these amendments. We plan to put forth a resolution in January to set a public hearing for February in order to give members of the legislature ample time to review the proposed amendments, ask questions and receive answers to those questions.

*County Operations*

- We are currently working with Sullivan County Parks to evaluate sustainable solutions for restroom upgrades at Stone Arch Bridge and Minisink Battleground. Staff visited these two parks with the Director and identified some simple improvements that should make a big impact in improving the comfort of those facilities.
- Our Zero Emission Vehicle grant is nearing completion and will be submitted prior to the end of 2017 (well in advance of the May 31, 2018 grant deadline). It was necessary to reevaluate the installation of the DC fast charging station due to the potential to incur unreasonable electricity charges.

## *Outreach*

- Several commercial solar projects have come to local planning boards for review, and we are currently working with the Planning Department to provide assistance to at least one of those municipalities, including mapping resources (many thanks to Real Property Tax Services for their assistance).
- A presentation was made at Cornell Cooperative Extension to promote incentives that are currently available for agriculture, including the C-PACE financing, NYSERDA incentives and USDA grants and loans.
- OSE received word that the NYS DEC will be making all Climate Smart Communities Certification documentation publicly available and searchable in the Spring of 2018. We intend to link our webpage to that searchable matrix so that members of the public will be able to see not only what Sullivan County did/is doing to achieve its certification, but also how it compares to what other communities have done.



## **Sullivan County Parks, Recreation & Beautification**

**SULLIVAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER**

100 NORTH STREET

PO BOX 5012

AddressCity, AddressState, AddressPostal

### Sullivan County Department of Parks, Recreation and Beautification December 14, 2017 Monthly Report

#### **Meetings:**

- Attended a trail hike with Sullivan Renaissance and the Town of Thompson at the new Healthy Heart Trail located at the Town of Thompson Park. Part of the trail was constructed with funding through the Sullivan Renaissance Healthy Community Initiatives Grant.
- Attended an O&W Steering Committee meeting that met with the several of the land owners of the O&W Trail.
- Attended a Trailkeeper.org meeting.
- Deputy Manager Depew and I met with members of the Sullivan County Historical Society to discuss the Lease Agreement for the Sullivan County Cultural Center.
- Attended the Sullivan County Wellness Committee monthly meeting.

#### **Training:**

- Attended a purchasing/voucher training that was hosted by the County Purchasing Department and the County Audit Department.

- In the process of completing the Internal Control Assessment Survey that has been distributed by the County Audit Department.

**General:**

- Hired on a part-time Museum Attendant to cover Sundays at the Sullivan County Cultural Center.
- Have been setting up the Park & Recreation Office that is now located within the Purchasing Department.
- DPW have been working in the parks with Fall clean-ups and clearing out over grown areas.
- Working on updating forms and documents for the 2018 season.

Sullivan County Parks, Recreation & Beautification

Season End Summary - 2017

**Sullivan County Clean Team:**

The Clean Team (five seasonal summer staff) are responsible for collecting litter along the county roadways and helping with small landscaping projects in the parks.

- Miles of County Road Covered: 105 miles
- Number of Garbage bags collected: 240
- Number of Recycle bags collected: 77

**D&H Canal Interpretive Center:**

Open Friday's - Sunday's Memorial Day Weekend through Columbus Day Weekend.

- Total Visitors: 230 ppl.

· Revenue -	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
	Book Store: \$158.64	Book Store: \$320.42
	Donations: \$ 27.00	Donations: \$0

**Fort Delaware:**

Open Friday's - Monday's Memorial Day Weekend through Columbus Day Weekend and Student School Days in May and June.

- Total Visitors: 3,529 ppl.

· Revenue -	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
	Admission: \$12,800.00	Admission: \$11,978.00
	Gift Shop: \$10,881.88	Gift Shop: \$10,285.84

**Lake Superior State Park:**

Open weekends Memorial Day Weekend - June. Open seven days a week July - Labor Day Weekend.

- Total Visitors: 10,037 ppl.
- Total Season Pass Holders: 189 ppl.

· Revenue -	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
	Admissions: \$49,620.00	Admissions: \$62,252.75
	Boat Rentals: \$ 6,378.00	Boat Rentals: \$ 7302.00

**Pavilion Rentals/Large Groups Permits:**

<u>Location</u>	<u># of Permits</u>
Lake Superior Beach Area:	33
Lake Superior Dam Area:	5
Livingston Manor Covered Bridge:	14
Stone Arch Bridge:	9
Minisink Battleground Park:	1
D&H Canal Linear Park:	1



**Sullivan County Community and Economic Development Committee**  
**SULLIVAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER**  
PO BOX 5012  
AddressCity, AddressState, AddressPostal

Cornell Cooperative Extension- Agricultural December 2017 Report



## NOVEMBER 2017 AGRICULTURE REPORT



Cornell University  
Cooperative Extension  
Sullivan County



### UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:

- Capturing Money Using Quickbooks, December 4th & 11th
- Finding the Right Funding for your Farm, December 7th

### NOVEMBER EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

- Catskills Farm & Food Workshop, November 3rd: Over 15 people attended this all day workshop to learn about getting into the food business.
- Business Planning Workshop, November 29th: 12 people attended this workshop, taught by Charlene Finerty from Plans and Profits. Attendees learned about how to set up a business plan, cash flows and business structures.
- Ag Educator Michelle Lipari is currently teaching a poultry webinar through Cornell Small Farms, with participants from across the nation.
- Michelle also became Beef Quality Assurance certified and can now teach this class locally.

### CATSKILLS KITCHEN FOOD INCUBATOR PROGRAM

The kitchen continues to gain interest and new users. Potential users have toured the kitchen and we receive calls from interested users on a regular basis. We currently have a new user producing baba ganoush.

### FARM TO SCHOOL PROJECT

CCE Staff participated in a Taste Test Thursday at Liberty Central School. Students had the opportunity to sample a new menu item using local farm products. CCE also submitted a USDA Farm to Community grant on behalf of the Monticello, Fallsburg, Liberty and BOCES school district. The grant proposed to hire a Farm to Community Coordinator to assist with coordinating farm to school initiatives, promoting farmers markets and developing a Farm to Institution project.

### VALUE - ADDED DAIRY PROCESSING PROJECT

The new facility is currently producing yogurt and working on fine tuning the product. We are hosting a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on December 21st.

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Staff assisted producers with the following:

- Soil Testing: 10 soil tests were conducted in November and soil amendment recommendations discussed.
- Business Planning Support: Staff are working with new farmers and farmers looking to expand on business planning in the areas of high tunnel production, beef, and specialty crops. Staff are working to develop a model Business Plan template.
- Beginner Farmer: Staff have conducted field visits and meetings with landowners looking to start farming. Staff has educated beginning farmers in the areas of ag assessment, ag districts and production needs
- Crop production: Staff have been assisting farmers with options for potential for specialty crop production, such as hemp.
- Staff also attended the yearly Ag In-Service training at Cornell University. Staff learned about new production techniques, marketing, funding opportunities, ag labor and new research studies through
- Staff provided technical assistance to farms in the field of animal husbandry.
- **Farm Assistance:** Assisted 75 farms through phone and email and conducted 5 field visits. Assistance includes business planning, beef production, specialty crop production, hay and soil testing, and beginner farmer inquiries.