



# Climate Change Task Force

## Town of Stonington

152 Elm Street

Stonington, Connecticut 06378

### Officers

Rick Newton  
*Chairman*

MaryEllen Mateleska  
*Secretary*

### Members

Dennis Unites

Susan Hibbard

Lyndsey Pyrke-  
Fairchild

Julia Parry

Sharon Lynch

Francis Pandolfi

Michael Serra

## CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE Town of Stonington Meeting Minutes Regular Meeting

January 20, 2022 – 5:15pm

Location: Milne Center for Ocean Science and Conservation – Mystic Aquarium

Present: Susan Hibbard (virtual), Rick Newton, Julia Parry (virtual), Francis Pandolfi, Lyndsey Pryke-Fairchild, Sharon Lynch (virtual), Michael Serra (virtual), Dennis Unites and MaryEllen Mateleska

Guest: Mark Scully (PACE)

Call to order 5:15pm

- Introduction of Francis Pandolfi and Michael Serra as new members of the Climate Change Task Force.
- Presentation from Mark Scully, PACE representation:
  - Review of “*Path to 100%*” handbook which is designed to provide steps and templates for municipalities to make energy saving steps.  
(<https://pacecleanenergy.org/general-resources/>)
  - Presented solar canopy data for Stonington that identified locations that could potentially house solar canopy.
  - Compiled data on the highest where the highest emissions are being produced by Stonington and avenues to carbon neutrality.
  - Provided advice on partnerships between installers and community organizations can work to create agreements to install solar and renewable energy options.
  - Recommended that the task force takes advantage of the CT Energy Network to learn more about ideas and information help towns transition to 100% renewable energy.
- Reading of remarks from First Selectman on the need to continue conversations with PACE representatives and update that the solar project at the transfer station is progressing to the next step. Julia Parry will communicate with First Selectman on the PACE presentation.
- Meeting minutes approved
- Hybrid virtual and in-person task force meetings may continue until April 2022.
- Review of Task Force’s assignments

- Community outreach update from Susan. First Selectman approved the “Climate Resiliency - Did You Know?” series and task force members will review list of recommended topics and choose themes to write entries.
- Mission statement review. Members of the task force unanimously approved “CCTF mission is to identify climate resiliency risk and community vulnerability within the town of Stonington, and assist the town in determining priorities, actions and solutions to mitigate these risks.”
- Task force will submit the spreadsheet with Connecticut towns that have active Flood & Erosion Control Boards for review.
- Status Updates:
  - Justification of the need for the Climate Sustainability and Floodplain Manager has been forwarded to the Board of Selectmen. A follow up email will be sent to confirm receipt of email and suggest that this position to include Floodplain Management and Planning & Zoning integration.
  - An update was provided on the Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers Watershed and Flood Prevention Program including a handout on the recommended actions summary for the Town of Stonington, CT.
  - Groton is developing a resiliency plan for the Groton-side of Mystic. If the results complement Stonington’s resiliency plan, it could result in future collaborative resiliency projects.
- Next meeting February 17, 2022 at 5:15pm at Milne Center for Ocean Science and Conservation and virtual.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49pm

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Ellen Matelaska". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.