



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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Climate Change Task Force

Milne Center for Ocean Science and Conservation – Mystic Aquarium
February 17, 2022 – 5:15 pm

Hybrid Format (zoom connection information below)

PER ORDER OF FIRST SELECTMAN AND THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE MILNE CENTER ALL IN-PERSON ATTENDEES MUST WEAR A MASK

1. Call to order 5:15 PM
2. Approval of draft regular meeting minutes: January 20, 2022
3. Correspondence:
 - a. Email from Keith Brynes, Town Planner dated January 27, 2022 forwarding letter from residents Gerhard and Duffy Schade regarding recent flooding in downtown Mystic (and draft response from CTFE).
4. Tasking:
 - a. Zoning regulations – on hold until PZC / consultant have draft regulations to review
 - b. Community Outreach – Continuing
 - c. Survey of Flood and Erosion Control Boards in other towns – sent to BOS – January 21, 2022
 - d. People's Action For Clean Energy – update on discussion with First Selectman (J. Parry)
5. Status Update:
 - a. Justification for creating new position: Climate Sustainability and Floodplain Manager – forwarded to Board of Selectmen December 16, 2021
 - b. Sample Employee Handbook – forwarded to Board of Selectmen December 16, 2021
 - c. Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program – USDA/NRCS (D. Unites representative)
 - d. Status of populating the Flood Prevention, Climate Resilience and Erosion Control Board – Board of Selectmen discussed at December 8, 2021 meeting
 - e. Status of establishing and populating a Stormwater Authority – Board of Selectmen decision

- f. Update on discussion of solar field at the transfer station
- g. Status of input from department heads for Climate Action Plan (referenced in First Selectman's email to the CCTF on July 1, 2021) – waiting on draft from First Selectman
6. Grant opportunities:
 - a. From CIRCA update: U.S. DOT Funding: Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program <https://bit.ly/3Hma53V>
 - b. From CIRCA update: FEMA Resources for Climate Resilience <https://bit.ly/3IRCKy4>
 - c. USDA to Invest \$1 Billion in Climate Smart Commodities, Expanding Markets, Strengthening Rural America <https://bit.ly/3ssgqEK>
7. Public awareness / outreach / conferences:
 - a. Budget update (from the combined Board of Selectmen / Capital Improvement Advisory Committee meeting minutes of February 2, 2022):

CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE

 - Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation Program – The Board kept the priority at A and reduced the line to \$250,000 with the understanding that the Board supports the hiring of a Sustainability Manager. The \$250,000 is necessary to have matching funding for future grants.
 - Electric Vehicle Charging Station – as requested.
 - b. “Duck chosen for living shoreline, NC 12 resiliency project” <https://bit.ly/3rFlaHX>
 - c. EV Club of Connecticut – info on charging stations <https://bit.ly/3GE4e8L>
 - d. Fact sheet 2022 Legislative Session – AN ACT CONCERNING CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION <https://bit.ly/3HIP9Eo>
 - e. Fact sheet 2022 Legislative Session – AN ACT CONCERNING MEDIUM- AND HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLE EMISSION STANDARDS <https://bit.ly/3ssWSQB>
 - f. Fact sheet 2022 Legislative Session – ACTS CONCERNING HOME ENERGY AFFORDABILITY <https://bit.ly/3JhYTpA>
8. Comments from task force members / public / open discussion
9. Adjournment
10. Next meeting: March 17, 2022 5:15 PM at Mystic Aquarium's Milne Center

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82400130006?pwd=N1p2SHFjWWWhIV3JZSHlvMWt3YWZRQT09>

Meeting ID: 824 0013 0006

Passcode: Climate

Stonington residents and others with an interest are invited to attend the monthly meetings and participate in the discussions

“The climate crisis will be orders of magnitude worse than the pandemic if we do not take the action that we can still take to avert the tragedy that we see coming towards us” -Tom Rivett-Carnac (Ted Radio Hour / Climate Mindset / May 22, 2020)

Mission Statement: The mission of the Climate Change Task Force 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.