



**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  
March 17, 2022 – 5:15 pm

Hybrid Format (zoom connection information below)

THE MILNE CENTER RECOMMENDS INDOOR ATTENDEES WEAR A MASK BUT IT IS NO LONGER REQUIRED

1. Call to order 5:15 PM
2. Approval of draft regular meeting minutes: February 17, 2022
3. Correspondence:
  - a. First selectman's email of 02/26/22 stating masks are no longer required at meetings (however since CCTF meets at the Milne Center, their requirements override this direction).
  - b. Stacey Haskell email of 03/02/22 stating the town attorney stated the new Flood Prevention, Climate Resilience and Erosion Control Board had to abide by the old ordinance with regards to number of board members. Applications are being accepted through April 29, 2022.
  - c. First selectman's email of 03/03/22 forwarding a legal guidance from the town attorney stating that unless the legislature extends the temporary provision in the FOIA that allowed virtual and hybrid meetings, any meeting after April 30<sup>th</sup> will need to go back to the "old way" (no virtual or hybrid options).
  - d. Pam McDonald email of 03/11/22 forwarding a link to a video on power grid <https://bit.ly/3pYW05C>
4. Tasking:
  - a. Zoning regulations – on hold until PZC / consultant have draft regulations to review (per J. Strunk PZC has decided on consultant [Feb. 17, 2022])
  - b. Community Outreach – Continuing (S. Hibbard)
  - c. People's Action For Clean Energy – update on HeatSmart Lite Program with First Selectman (J. Parry)
  - d. EDC interest in establishing EV charging stations (S. Lynch)
5. Status Update:
  - a. Flood and Erosion Control Board – BOS voted on February 23, 2022 to establish and seek volunteers for this board. Will incorporate Stormwater

Authority duties into this board. Will see if Stonington Borough wants to have a combined board.

- b. Justification for creating new position: Climate Sustainability and Floodplain Manager – funding has been requested in annual budget – presented to Board of Finance on February 24, 2022.
  - c. Sample Employee Handbook – forwarded to Board of Selectmen December 16, 2021 (under development per J. Strunk [Feb. 17, 2022])
  - d. Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program – USDA/NRCS (D. Unites representative)
  - e. Update on discussion of solar field at the transfer station (town needs to find new contractor – per J. Strunk [Feb. 17, 2022])
  - f. 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
  - g. CCTF Priority List update
6. Grant opportunities:
    - a. EPA Highlights Historic \$106 Million Investment in Water Infrastructure Benefiting Long Island Sound <https://bit.ly/3rYt8vI>
    - b. Long Island Sound Futures Fund grants for climate change resilience <https://bit.ly/3Ktbc2K>
  7. Public awareness / outreach / conferences:
    - a. Budget update – Board of Finance public hearing on budget: March 29, 2022.
    - b. 2022 Sea Level Rise Technical Report (NOAA): <https://bit.ly/3gXidfA>
    - c. IPCC Sixth Assessment Report <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/>
    - d. UCONN CIRCA: Resilience Connecticut Expands Statewide <https://bit.ly/35FEbBX>
  8. Comments from task force members / public / open discussion
  9. Adjournment
  10. Next meeting: April 21, 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)*

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*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.*