



# 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

May 19, 2022 – 5:15 pm

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: April 21, 2022
3. Correspondence:
  - a. May 4, 2022 email to First Selectman regarding passage of HB5269 (now PA 22-3) that allows towns to continue virtual or hybrid meetings.
  - b. May 5, 2022 email from Scott Connuck (East Point Energy) via Kevin Browdler (EDC) referral regarding battery storage facility (see agenda item below)
4. Tasking:
  - a. Zoning regulations – on hold until PZC / consultant have draft regulations to review
  - b. Community Outreach – Continuing (S. Hibbard)
  - c. People's Action For Clean Energy – updates (J. Parry)
  - d. EDC interest in joint meeting (S. Lynch) – was agenda item at EDC 05/10/22 meeting.
  - e. East Point Energy battery storage facility in Old Mystic
5. Status Update:
  - a. Flood Prevention, Climate Resilience and Erosion Control Board – 6 applicants interviewed for 5 open positions at the May 11, 2022 BOS meeting. Applicants: Eric Garofano, Christopher Houlihan, David Rathbun, Dennis Unites, Robert Mohr and Daniel Booker.
  - b. New position approved in budget: Grants and Floodplain Manager (job not yet posted).
  - 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])

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22 MAY 16 AM 9:35

SALLY DUPLICE  
TOWN CLERK

- 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. Upcoming: CT DEEP Climate Resilience Program
- 7. Public awareness / outreach / conferences:
  - a. Town of Stamford Climate Emergency Declaration <https://bit.ly/39pJUgz>
  - b. Climate bills passed during short legislative session:
    - i. SB10, An Act Concerning Climate Change Mitigation – Mandates reduction of greenhouse gas emission levels from electricity supplied to customers to zero percent by 2040.
    - ii. SB4, An Act Concerning The Connecticut Clean Air Act – adopts California standards for medium and heavy duty standards; matching grant program for electric school buses setting goal of 100% electric by 2040; ends purchase of diesel transit buses by 2026 & requires state light vehicle fleet to be 100% electric by 2030; increase incentive funding for EVs and expand access to EV charging stations.
    - iii. SB93, An Act Concerning The Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program - expands eligibility for the Connecticut Green Bank's Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program by allowing the program to finance installation of zero-emission vehicle charging infrastructure and resilience improvements on qualifying commercial real property.
    - iv. SB176, An Act Concerning Clean Energy Tariff Programs - will help grow solar energy and make it more accessible by increasing allowable project sizes and doubling the annual megawatt capacity of the state's Shared Clean Energy Facilities (SCEF) and commercial solar (NRES) projects.
  - c. Stonington awarded CIRCA grant for Holmes St. seawall design.
- 8. Comments from task force members / public / open discussion
- 9. Adjournment
- 10. Next meeting: June 16, 2022 5:15 PM at Mystic Aquarium's Milne Center



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.*