



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

July 21, 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: June 16, 2022
3. Correspondence:
 - a. July 16, 2022 email from Danielle Chesebrough regarding NOAA Climate Ready Coasts grant program (link below).
 - b. Multiple emails from Thomas Mitchell / Susan Cullen regarding SustainableCT Climate Leader designation (like below).
 - c. July 15, 2022 email from Maura Robie (ECCD) regarding ECCD's pollinator pathways / rain garden grant (follow-up meeting scheduled July 20, 2022)
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) – Sharon met with Kevin Bowdler on July 11, 2022 – focus on one theme for now: solar energy applications
5. Status Update:
 - a. Flood Prevention, Climate Resilience and Erosion Control Board – no meeting scheduled
 - 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)

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
STONINGTON, CT.

22 JUL 18 AM 8:37

SALLY DUPLICE
TOWN CLERK

- 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 / Hazardous Mitigation Plan status – ongoing
 - h. Stonington Curriculum review (S. Lynch & R. Newton) – met with superintendent office (M. Butler / T. Smith on June 29, 2022. Follow-up meeting August 17, 2022) <https://bit.ly/3cfqigt>
 - i. SustainableCT Climate Leader Designation (PILOT) <https://bit.ly/3Rlf7gw>
6. Grant opportunities:
- a. NOAA Climate Ready Coasts <https://bit.ly/3yQxXcC>
7. Public awareness / outreach / conferences:
- a. NPR Climate website: <https://n.pr/3PhgOzR>
 - b. E&E News - Climate Wire / Supreme Court restricts EPA’s ability to go big on climate – July 1, 2022 <https://bit.ly/3uR1rWD>
 - c. The Day – July 14, 2022 – Groton Long Point bridge preliminary design under discussion (firewalled). Elevate by 4 feet. Widen by 5 feet. Increase length to 86 feet from 50 feet. \$6.7 M cost (2021 data). Began discussions 2012. Finish construction 2026.
 - d. The Westerly Sun – July 13, 2022 – Stormwater plan would transform downtown area along Main Street (firewalled). “When implemented, the plan is expected to transform the area into one dominated by asphalt into one with trees and plantings that reduce flooding, improve the water quality of the Pawcatuck River, provide pollinator and bird habitat, improve air quality, and add beauty and pedestrian ease to the economic center of the town.”
 - e. CT Public: Disrupted podcast – How the Climate Crisis Is Affecting Connecticut’s Future – June 29, 2022 <https://bit.ly/3B1593Z>
 - f. Patch – June 24, 2022 – Students Ask Greenwich Selectmen To Declare Climate Change Emergency <https://bit.ly/3z9Kf1I>
8. Comments from task force members / public / open discussion
9. Adjournment
10. Next meeting: August 18, 2022 5:15 PM at Mystic Aquarium’s Milne Center



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82400130006?pwd=N1p2SHEjWWWhIV3JZSHlvMWt3YWZRQT09>

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

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.