



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

Jane Dawson

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Climate Change Task Force

Milne Center for Ocean Science and Conservation – Mystic Aquarium
November 16, 2023 – 5:15 pm

Hybrid Format (zoom connection information below)

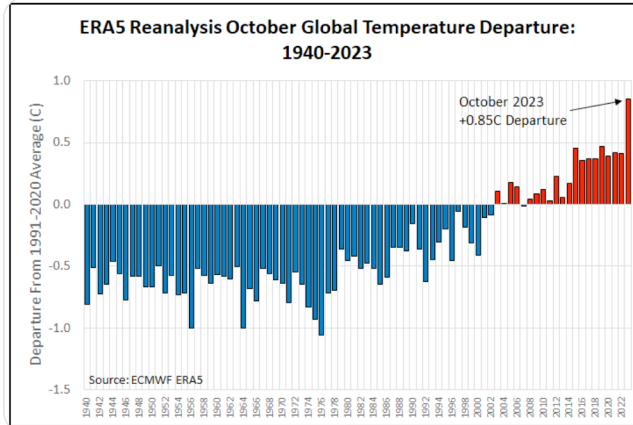
1. Call to order 5:15 PM
2. Minutes for approval: September 21, 2023 Regular meeting
3. Correspondence:
 - a. September 23, 2023 email to P. Burmhal and others forwarding CCTF Capital Improvement Program submissions (attended public hearing Oct. 19th) and subsequent emails on CIP. Discussion at December meeting.
 - b. October 21, 2023 email to M. Evak forwarding the CCTF priority listing (per J. Parry request).
4. Tasking:
 - a. Board of Selectmen priorities:
 - i. CCTF vision for short / long term goals of Flood Prevention, Climate Resilience and Erosion Control Board (completed)
 - ii. Develop and design a community outreach social media campaign (sent one item – not posted)
 - iii. Input for Phase II of zoning regulations update (Phase II sustainability / environment / open space will be first of five topics – October to January) – PZC holding public forum **November 28, 2023**. CIRCA announced a new tool: **Climate Resilience Zoning Library** <https://bit.ly/3FQuz5u> (sent to town planner and PZC chairman on November 7, 2023)
 - iv. Meet with Susan Cullen on SustainableCT (met briefly – will come to meeting later in fall) – Stonington attained bronze status again in September. Report: <https://bit.ly/3LSVeCb>
 - b. Community solar (S. Lynch)
 - c. Plan of Conservation and Development update
5. Status Update:
 - a. Flood Prevention, Climate Resilience and Erosion Control Board – Meeting monthly – agendas and minutes on town website

6. Grant opportunities:
 - a. Fiscal Year 2023 Notices of Funding Opportunities for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants | FEMA.gov <https://bit.ly/46EF6fR> and CT DEEP <https://bit.ly/3udTwFm>
 - b. Updated list of grants from SEAGRANT: <https://bit.ly/3QoS77N>
 - c. Wood-Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic Rivers – Wild and Scenic Community Grants – up to \$12,000 – December 29, 2023 deadline. <https://bit.ly/3QcoO73>
 - d. SeaGrant email with announcements of webinars and grants (pdf sent separately).
7. Public awareness / outreach / conferences:
 - a. Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island Sign First-Time Agreement for Multi-State Offshore Wind Procurement – October 4, 2023 <https://bit.ly/46oc5VW>
 - b. Vatican News - “Laudate Deum”: the Pope’s cry for a response to the climate crisis – October 4, 2023 <https://bit.ly/3rw5Wrv>
 - c. cnbc.com - Climate change could impose ‘substantial financial costs’ on U.S. household finances, Treasury warns – October 2, 2023 <https://cnb.cx/3tky4hF>
 - d. The Guardian - ‘Gobsmackingly bananas’: scientists stunned by planet’s record September heat <https://bit.ly/3Q3uW2v>
 - e. wshu.org October 26, 2023 New Haven to plant 5,000 trees to fight climate change <https://bit.ly/3FTWYbb>
 - f. From PACE: Solar in CT: <https://www.pacecleanenergy.org/ctsolar/>
 - g. The Day (firewalled) – New London plans colossal expansion of electric vehicle charging stock – October 10, 2023 – 18 dual-port, level 2 devices to be added using no-cost incentive program. <https://bit.ly/40w1rKF>
 - h. NPR: Meeting 1.5 degree temperature target is unlikely, study finds – October 30, 2023 <https://n.pr/3u6Vqrk>
 - i. CT Mirror - Part 1, October 8, 2023 - As flooding worsens in CT, its drainage systems can't keep up <https://bit.ly/3FJrR1A>
 - j. CT Mirror - Part 2, November 5, 2023 - With CT shoreline flooding rising, officials turn to natural mitigation <https://bit.ly/3QoaOCA>
 - k. CT Public – November 10, 2023 - Bacteria levels up in some private CT wells following summer of extreme rain <https://bit.ly/47oR6C8>
 - l. The Guardian - November 10, 2023 - Food, soil, water: how the extinction of insects would transform our planet <https://bit.ly/3MFoywr>

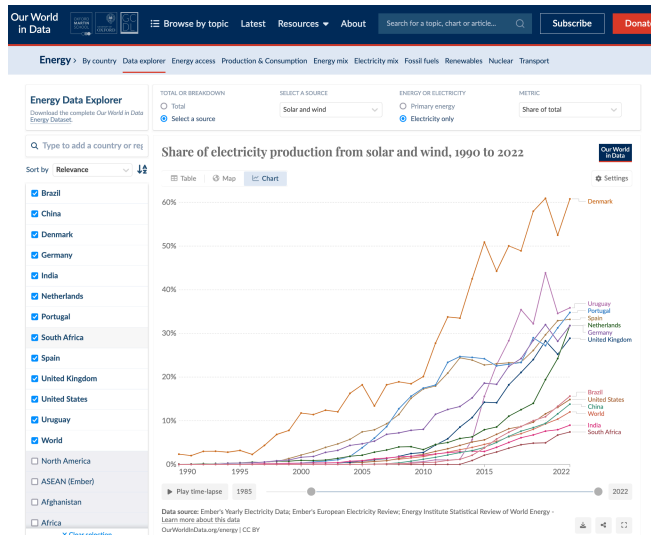
Mission Statement: The mission of the Climate Change Task Force is to identify climate resiliency risk and community vulnerability within the town of Stonington, and assist the town in determining priorities, actions and solutions to mitigate these risks.

The Not-So-Good News:

🌪️🌪️ BREAKING: October 2023 shattered the record for the warmest October globally. The gold standard reanalysis (ERA5) showed this October to be 0.85C above the 1991-2020 average. Nov-Dec would have to be cooler than ALL of the last Nov-Dec to NOT set a new annual record. 🌪️🌪️



Some better news:



8. Comments from task force members / public / open discussion
9. Adjournment
10. Next meeting: December 21, 2023

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82400130006?pwd=N1p2SHFjWWwhIV3JZSHlvMWt3YWZRQT09>

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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

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