



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 February 15, 2024 – 5:15 pm

(Entrance is on north side of Milne Center near picnic tables)

Hybrid Format (zoom connection information below)

1. Call to order 5:15 PM
2. Minutes for approval: January 18, 2024 Regular meeting
3. Correspondence:
 - a. February 5, 2024 email from P. Burmahl forwarding one page summary from FOIA Commission regarding public meetings (attachment forwarded separately).
 - b. Two emails from Kristin Foster expressing a desire to present Mason's Island Shoreline Project to CCTF (see separate design report forwarded separately) - presentation
4. 2024-2025 Budget: \$500K for coastal adaptation approved by BOS (see separate powerpoint from 2021 for establishing a Coastal Resiliency Fund). \$245K for EV charging stations cut to \$20K by BOS. Tentative budget hearing calendar: <https://bit.ly/48eK1nZ>
5. Tasking:
 - a. Board of Selectmen priorities:
 - i. Input for Phase II of zoning regulations update (Phase II sustainability / environment / open space will be first of five topics – October to February). CIRCA announced a new tool: **Climate Resilience Zoning Library** <https://bit.ly/3FQuz5u> (sent to town planner and PZC chairman on November 7, 2023)
 - ii. Revisit CCTF Priority List (see separate document)
 - iii. Farmer's Market table – March 2 (Rick, MaryEllen,?)
 - iv. Assist in SustainableCT Climate Leader qualification: <https://bit.ly/3RIf7gw>
6. Plan of Conservation and Development update
7. Status Update:
 - a. Flood Prevention, Climate Resilience and Erosion Control Board – Meeting monthly – agendas and minutes on town website
 - b. Town of Groton Downtown Mystic Resiliency & Sustainability Plan

- <https://bit.ly/3XWMijC>

8. CT Legislative Session – Through May 8, 2024
 - a. Governor’s Legislative Proposals: <https://bit.ly/487kc9n>
 - i. Senate Bill 11 - An Act Coordinating Connecticut Resiliency Planning and Broadening Municipal Options for Climate Resilience. <https://bit.ly/42yKcJA> Fact Sheet: <https://bit.ly/42zqKw8>
 - ii. House Bill 5052 – An Act Supporting Solar Energy in Schools. <https://bit.ly/42z0bHm> Fact Sheet: <https://bit.ly/3SUFBOy>
 - b. Link to Environment Committee: <https://bit.ly/488jMPP>
 - i. Future bill: House Bill 5004 - Connecticut Climate Protection Act of 2024
9. Grant opportunities:
 - a. Current Nature-based solutions funding database (National Wildlife Federation): <http://bit.ly/3kuxtpO>
 - b. From LIS Sustainable & Resilient Communities: Comprehensive List of Current and Future Funding opportunities (as of November 2023): <https://bit.ly/3QoS77N>
 - c. CT DoAG - Specialty Crop Block Grant – webinar Feb. 23, due date Mar. 4. <https://bit.ly/3ukRYtX>
 - d. CT DoAG – Food System Capacity Building Grant – due date Mar. 6. <https://bit.ly/4bsync1>
 - e. From CT DEEP Climate Change newsletter: COMING SOON: 2024 Long Island Sound Futures Fund — The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) has announced ~\$12 million of available funding to support Long Island Sound (LIS) watershed communities as they plan, design, and implement projects to protect the health and living resources of LIS. Request for Proposals opens in March 2024.
10. Public awareness / outreach / conferences:
 - a. LaGrua Center - February 28, 2024 – 5:00 PM – Cost of Coastal Flooding – Stonington Open Forum led by Henri Gourd (realtor). Featured speakers include the Town Planner and professionals from the insurance and real estate industries.
 - b. From PACE email #260: EVCLUBofCT - Which Dealers Are EV Friendly – 2024 Update – January 23, 2024 <https://bit.ly/3Ssnf68>
 - c. Inside Climate News – February 5, 2024 - Is The Current Hurricane Warning System Outdated? <https://bit.ly/3HSyUGq>
 - d. The Guardian - February 9, 2024 - Atlantic Ocean circulation nearing ‘devastating’ tipping point, study finds <https://bit.ly/49dkX22>
 - e. Inside Climate News – February 6, 2024 - Cryptocurrency Companies Must Now Report Their Energy Use to the Government <https://bit.ly/49byAyr>
 - f. AP News - The number of monarch butterflies at their Mexico wintering sites has plummeted this year – February 7, 2024 - <https://bit.ly/3UyLXEw>
 - g. The Day – February 11, 2024 - New London high school solar panels expected to shrink electric bills – Solar panels to be installed on high school roof expected to save \$6,000 per month.
 - h. The Day – February 11, 2024 – SeaCoast Mushrooms LLC won a CT DoAG Climate Smart Agriculture grant for on-farm renewable energy with purchase and installation of a roof and ground-mount solar array to power the electrical needs.

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.

- 11. Comments from task force members / public / open discussion
- 12. Adjournment
- 13. Next meeting: March 21, 2024



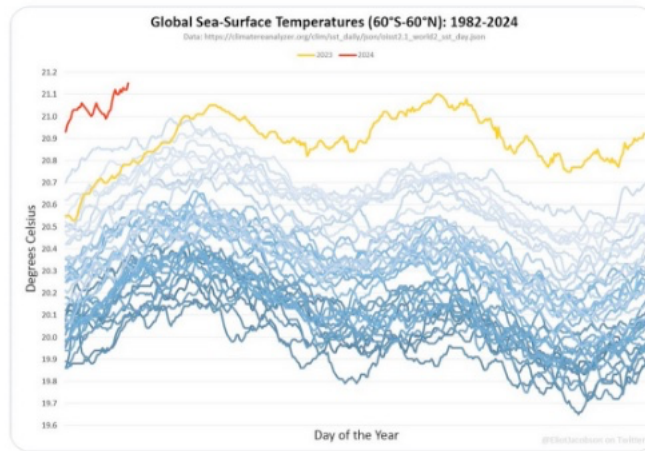
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82400130006?pwd=N1p2SHFjWWWhIV3JZSHlvMWt3YWZQRQT09>

Meeting ID: 824 0013 0006

Passcode: Climate

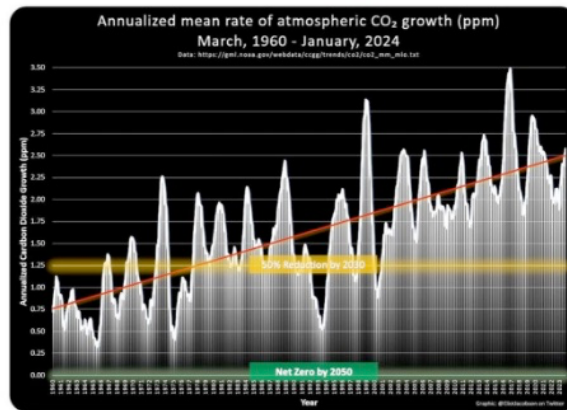
Stonington residents and others with an interest are invited to attend the monthly meetings and participate in the discussions



Prof. Eliot Jacobson @EliotJacobson · 2h
 To stay under 1.5°C, the goalposts are a 50% reduction in CO₂ growth by 2030 and net-zero by 2050.

This graphic gives those two goals, along with annualized atmospheric CO₂ growth and a linear trendline.

We are blowing by 1.5°C in real time. #AGH.



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